Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &c.

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Maine Farmer.

S. L. BOARDMAN, Agricultural Editor.

Gov. Dingley on Agriculture.

The resolutions introduced at the meeting of the State Agricultural, and also State Pomological Societies, at their sessions in this city last week, condemnatory of the recommendation of Gov. Dingley in his special message to the Legislature, that the number and size of the annual volume on the agriculture of the State be reduced, and the speeches by which they were supported, may be recognized as expressing the feeling of the farmers of the State upon a matter in which they are specially interested, and may be allowed to be heard. And while, we are sorry to observe evidences of hasty expression, and perhaps a tone of unkind criticism in some of the remarks as reported in the daily journals, both quite uncalled for—we still believe there is very good reason for the farmers of the State to take decided exceptions to the position of His Excellency, and give firm and positive expression to their views upon the question, in their public meetings and through the public press; and on this account we heartily rejoice that both these State associations have spoken in decided disapproval of the course Gov. Dingley has taken to crush out intelligent farming in Maine. These speakers represented the counties of York, Franklin, Androscoggin, Kennebec, Lincoln, Somerset, Penobscot and Hancock; and the gentlemen who uttered their voices upon this matter, are among the leading agriculturists and most influential men in the several counties.

In his anual message to the Legislature, it was noticeable that Gov. Dingley completely ignored our agriculture and the interests of the farmers; and worse than that, took occasion to turn the cold shoulder to the State College—an institution to which he has on former public occasions pledged his earnest and hearty support. It would certainly have been a just mark of respect to the fifty thousand farmers of Maine, thirty-five thousand of whom probably extended their suffrages to Gov. Dingley last September; if he had devoted a few lines in his address to a recognition of the importance of agriculture, and our agricultural organizations; even had his words been nothing but "glittering generalities;"—but we refrained from making any criticisms upon this, because we thought he might possibly have regarded farming as of so leading importance as to demand no special recognition at his hands. But when he takes the pains to prepare a special message (which he of course desires to receive special notice from the Legislature), and in it calls attention to the fact that "a smaller number of copies of a pamphlet in paper covers; embodying only the proceedings and a brief abstract of the papers," read at the meetings of the Board of Agriculture, and thus save a few hundred dollars—it is plain to see that his friendship for farmers is questionable, to say the least.

The report of the Board of Agriculture is prepared in accordance with the Statute of the State, which provides that it shall contain a "*detailed account* of the Board" and such suggestions and recommendations as may be deemed advisable. Its total cost is about 72 cents per bound volume of 700 pages; and while the farmers of Maine do not object to the lawyers having their reports and statutes which they help pay for, but can never *draw*—why need they be debarred from having their volume, which costs this moderate sum, and which furnishes to them reliable information upon this great interest of our State? Circulated through the County Agricultural Societies and Farmers' Clubs, it becomes a great agency for the diffusion of valuable information among farmers, and its reading is productive not only of good to the individual, but through it better practices are employed, better stock obtained, and our material wealth and prosperity increased and promoted. We could show abundant testimony to the value in which these volumes are held, and to the increasing demand for them among reading, thinking farmers.

In most of the states, Boards of Agriculture are established, and on consulting late volumes of these publications, we find their size to be as follows:—New Hampshire, 691 pages; New York, 835; Massachusetts, 765; Kansas, 638; Michigan, 653; Wisconsin, 500, and Missouri, 750. The State of Maine exchanges documents with the above States, and when it receives such volumes as the above, how will its dignity and standing among the states be maintained when it sends in return a paper (straw) covered pamphlet containing so brief an abstract of its agricultural transactions as to be completely worthless. We suggest however, if the State is too poor to print this report, that the privilege of publishing it be given to some enterprising manufacturer of patent manures, or dealer in agricultural implements—with liberty to send it out gratis, in a little pamphlet, sandwiched on opposite pages with puffs for plows and phosphate. In this way the report could be circulated free of cost to the States and enterprising business men would be eager to bid for the job.

The plan proposed by Gov. Dingley for publishing the reports on the agriculture of our State, is an insult to intelligent agriculturists, and by carrying it out he would virtually say to the farmers of Maine—"Intelligence is of no account; farmers needn't know anything; the old pod-augur days, when a year old steer would bring but $8, and farm work was performed wholly by manual labor, were better than these; our young men may go West where they can find better encouragement; it won't do to spend money by means of which to give them intelligence to direct their labors more understandingly, that they may receive better results; a local paper having a few columns of farming reading contains all the information they need; we will save the cost of printing these reports in order to continue high salaries to useless officers in return for party work performed, and by retrenchment in these matters secure to ourself higher gain in the future." But will the intelligent farmers of Maine submit to such a scheme to deprive them of the only public document which is of any value to them, while thousands of dollars are annually spent for documents which they never see, and which are of no use to them, and of but little to anybody? We do not believe it. But we do believe that so long as they ask for the report of the Board of Agriculture, are willing to pay for it, and even desire more copies than they now have—it is not exactly in the line of Gov. Dingley's duty to strive for a reputation as an economist by recommending its discontinuance.

In his paper, the Lewiston *Journal* of 22d inst., Gov. Dingley comes to his own rescue against the criticisms of these speakers, in an article entitled "A Thankless Work," in which he says that "while everybody is in favor of retrenchment, nobody can bring himself to believe that the rule should apply to himself." This is no doubt very nearly the truth—but to disprove it entirely, and to make a practical application of his theory of retrenchment, we shall now expect Gov. Dingley to send another special message to the Legislature, requesting that his own salary be reduced from $2500 to $1500.

It is noticeable that when Statesmen who make a hobby of reduction in public expenditures, suggest any retrenchment; they always commence, not with reducing the fancy salaries of useless officers, but by aiming a blow at the intelligence of the people, at our educational institutions and those branches of government which are of direct service and benefit to those who are taxed to support them—just as a railroad curtails its expenses by dispensing with section men, and tried and faithful servants who tend the switches at $1.50 per day—putting in their places men who can be hired for $1.00; when from their inefficiency, a broken rail or a misplaced switch sends a train to destruction, and lives are lost, and thousands of dollars in damages are the consequences. In either case the policy is a mistaken one, and the results which are deplorable, may be averted by a wise, and liberal and judicious policy; such a policy as nations, and States and corporations have ever deemed to be promotive of the best good of those most interested.

State Pomological Society.

The meeting of the State Pomological Society held in this city on Wednesday and Thursday, although rather lightly attended, was a most successful one. While widely distant portions of the State were not represented, as could hardly have been expected at this season, there were present a goodly number of earnest, intelligent cultivators, and those who have for years been identified with our fruit-growing interests. These gentlemen, together with the devoted officers of the Society and members of leading committees, set at work earnestly to carry forward the objects of the Society, and we venture that no two days in its history will ever show better results than those on which the above meeting was held. It may be true that the programme did not present quite so attractive features as to topics and speakers as that for the meeting held here last winter—which might have had something to do with the smaller attendance—but no one will question that the results of the meeting are not much more important. The report of the Corresponding Secretary, Dr. Weston, was an instructive one; and Mr. Varney's paper on Floriculture and Ornamental Planting, well written and calculated to turn more attention to the cultivation of flowers—but the chief work performed, was the preparation and adoption of a Fruit List for Maine; the need of which has long been felt by every orchardist seeking information in regard to the fruits to be grown in this State. A better committee to work up this matter could hardly have been selected, and the list as published in another place, will be diligently studied by fruit growers in all sections of Maine. It represents a good deal of experience on the part of cultivators, and much correspondence and labor on the part of the committee; and so far as our recollection goes, is the first attempt in the matter of making a thorough, careful, systematic list of fruits for this State, by a competent authority, for the guidance and information of fruit-growers—young and old. It is true the old "Maine Pomological and Horticultural Society," organized twenty years ago, had for one of its objects, "to name a list of fruits found worthy of general cultivation, describe them and introduce them to the public;" and in its first report, did publish descriptions of thirteen apples, natives of Maine, but two or three of which are now cultivated. Maine has also had a line in the fruit list of the American Pomological Society for some years—but it has been so imperfectly filled out, that it has been more of a disgrace than a credit to us. Fruit growers in every part of the State will now rejoice and be glad, that at last this important matter is to receive proper attention. And although the list is not presented as complete, we presume its publication will be one of the first steps toward making it so, and cultivators are requested to supply the committee with any fact which will tend to its perfection in any particular. Even if the Society had done nothing else for the past year, and if the work of the late meeting had been wholly taken up with the revision of this list—its year's results would have been regarded as most satisfactory. It embraces ninety varieties of apples, and nineteen of pears. While the division of the State into sections, as recommended by the Society is quite a natural one, and as good perhaps, as any which could be suggested until our knowledge of local climatology, and the success attending the cultivation of certain varieties in different sections is better understood—it may yet be questioned whether a section which embraces the counties of Kennebec and Hancock should be accepted as correct, and that by recommending an apple for this section, the Society gives the fruit growing public to understand, that it is as good for, and will succeed equally as well in one county as the other. We believe that in mapping the State into fruit sections, the lines must eventually be drawn with a nicer distinction, and that in a State which has so extended a territory as our own, more than three divisions must be made. But this matter will no doubt receive the attention of the Society in the future, and we throw out the suggestion only for the purpose of calling the attention of our correspondents to it, in the hope that they may communicate their views in relation thereto through our columns, for the general good. Finally we congratulate the Society on the record it is making for itself; on the good it is accomplishing, and on its having for officers men of capacity and enthusiasm, who are willing to do a large amount of hard work for no other consideration than the promotion and advancement of our pomology and horticulture.

A Lady Pomologist.

Among the exhibitors of fruits at the exhibition of the State Pomological Society in this city last week, was Mrs. D. A. Fairbanks, wife of the late D. A. Fairbanks, the first Secretary of the old State Pomological Society, who died in 1863. Mrs. Fairbanks exhibited seven varieties of pears and seven of apples and among the former were fine specimens of the Vicar of Winkfield, which she grows to great perfection in her fine garden. She ripens the pears by bringing them from the cellar and keeping them for a few days in a box in the sitting-room. Hon. Marshal P. Wilder in 1857, said he should prefer the Vicar to any other variety if restricted to one. But there is a great difference in taste as regards fruit of all kinds. Downing says of this variety, "Occasionally we have tested it fine as a table pear, but generally it is astringent, and only third rate for this purpose. If ripened off in a warm temperature, however, it will generally prove a good second-rate eating pear." Our taste is probably not as fastidious as that of Downing, but Mrs. Fairbanks has favored us with specimens of the Vicar, which are certainly more than good, and do not lack much of being first-rate. She will please accept our thanks for the same. Mrs. Fairbanks' knowledge of fruits is very good, and she is enthusiastically devoted to their culture.

Maine Board of Agriculture.

The winter meeting of the State Board of Agriculture will be held at the Town Hall in Waterville early in February, the exact time of which will be announced in our next. The place is a good one at which to hold such a meeting, Waterville being in the centre of one of the best agricultural sections in the State, and the community one noted for the intelligence and enterprise of its farmers. Among the speakers engaged for the meeting is Mr. L. B. Arnold of Rochester, N. Y., the Secretary of the American Dairymens' Association, and an acknowledged authority on dairy matters, who will give a lecture on the "Needs of the Dairy." A programme of the meeting with speakers and subjects will be announced at an early day.

Exhibition of Fruit.

At the suggestion of the State Pomological Society, the Board of Agriculture invites fruit growers, farmers and others interested, to make an exhibition of fruit at Waterville during the approaching meeting of the Board at that place. Others interested in other branches, as the dairy, are invited to contribute specimens of butter or cheese, or other farm products. Grains will also help to give interest to the meeting and exhibition. Let farmers in that section heed the suggestion, and help make up an attractive and interesting display.

Editorial Notes.

A correspondent at Kennebunk speaks of the efficacy of sulphur as a remedy for roupe in fowls. Mix a spoonful of sulphur with an equal quantity of Indian meal and force it down the throat with the finger, performing the operation with care. It has been tried in numerous instances and has never failed to be of benefit.

Z. A. Gilbert Esq., of East Turner, one of the leading contributors of the FARMER, has been returned by the Androscoggin Agricultural Society as a member of the Board of Agriculture for a term of three years. Mr. Gilbert is a model farmer, an accurate and painstaking writer, and will serve his Society most creditably in the future, as he has in the past.

For the Maine Farmer.

Water in Stock Food.

Letter from Hon. Harris Lewis.

In your issue of Jan. 16th, I find a paper from my friend Z. A. Gilbert, on "Water in Stock Food," in which he expresses a regret that I should "ride a hobby." I differ from Mr. Gilbert in only one particular, and that is in the different hobbies we ride. I am proud that I have a hobby to ride, and intend to ride it thoroughly. There is no man in my opinion in a more deplorable condition than that man who has no hobby to ride. Yet if I have caused others weariness, or given my hobby undue attention so as to make it offensive (as it appears to be to my friend Gilbert), I certainly regret it. Mr. Gilbert does not understand my hobby, yet fully endorses it when he says, "Grass in its green and succulent state, is conceded by all to be the nearest perfect of any animal food grown." That is my hobby, nothing more, nothing less. But when we feed dry grass during winter, with not over 10 per cent of water, the other part of my hobby comes in, in favor of feeding roots with this dry food, thereby rendering the winter's food as near like the summer's food as the changed condition of things will allow.

The mass of our dairymen and cattle feeders have taken fodder corn as their hobby and ridden it from Maine to California; yet I have never met with one able to give the cost of growing and feeding an acre, or its actual value, or its value compared with good grass. Can Mr. Gilbert tell? These questions I settled for myself many years ago, after the most careful experiments I was able to make, and concluded after many trials that *good grass* was a cheaper and better food for most stock, than fodder corn.

I repeat, my hobby in regard to cattle food, is *good grass in summer, and dried grass with a daily feeding of roots in the winter*; and if by advocating this kind of food for dairy stock I have created a wrong impression in the minds of the people of Maine, I very much regret it, for I never met with any people at any time or place, for whom I have a higher opinion, or more kindly feeling than for the people of Maine—with Mr. Gilbert included.

Now Mr. Gilbert's hobby, sowed corn and water, may answer for him but not for me, or my cows, for I have proved by experiments oft repeated, that 65 per cent. of water in the feed of cows, milk only excepted, is all the water profitable or even desirable. Let Mr. Gilbert take some ugly, kicking cow and feed her four months alone on either kind of his watery food containing over 90 per cent. of water, and I will promise him that she will go "where the wicked cease from troubling," and where all kicking cows will be at rest. In conclusion I will advise Mr. Gilbert not to ride his hobby of "Water in Stock Food" too fast or too far, for fear that he may slop over, and his cows under.

HARRIS LEWIS.

Frankfort, N. Y.

For the Maine Farmer.

Naples Grange, P. of H.

The farmers of Naples met at the residence of Nathan A. Church, on the 13th inst., and were organized into Naples Grange of P. of H., by C. H. Cobb, Esq., assisted by Mr. Hiram, both of Poland. The following officers were elected: Master, N. A. Church; Overseer, D. K. Barker; Lecturer, Geo. W. Hall; Steward, Albion Chaplain; Asst. Steward, Calvin Paul; Chaplain, James Chute, 2d.; Treasurer, B. F. Wentworth; Secretary, J. E. Barker; Gate Keeper, B. R. Knight; Ceres, Mrs. N. A. Church; Pomona, Mrs. L. P. Crockett; Flora, Mrs. H. R. Crockett; Lady Asst. Steward, Mrs. James Chute, 2d.

Woman's Department.

For the Woman's Department.

Saving Steps.

"There's a hundred and one ways of saving steps," said an old house-keeper to me; "but it takes pretty near a life-time to learn them all. When I was first married, I used to trot, trot, from morning till night, and didn't accomplish anything, either; my work always dragged. I used to get ten times as tired as I do now, and it was all because I didn't try to save steps or take my work at an advantage. If you want to keep from wearing out before your time, take this bit of advice, *make each step tell.*"

I went home and have acted upon that since, to the best of my ability. Here are a few of the "ways:" I moved every ingredient and utensil necessary for cooking into the buttery, and planned so they should occupy as little space as possible. Simon fitted five strong shelves under the shelf, into which I transferred my stock of table cloths, rollers, dish-towels, bread-cloths, &c. I praised him so much for that good deed, that the next evening he nailed cleats under the stationary table on which I cook, and made a wide, shallow drawer to run upon them. He divided it into apartments or little boxes, which I filled with spices, soda, cream tartar &c. Most of them were in papers and these that were not, I made brown paper bags for, to prevent sifting out or losing strength. I wish you could have seen the old, cracked teapots, puttied fruit cans, bulging paste-board boxes &c., that this new arrangement dispensed with. It left plenty of room on the shelves for articles that had been banished to the cellar or shed pantry, for lack of space, and where one must run every time they were needed.

There is also a brisk, hearth in the dining room, full of cracks and battered corners. My ancestors mopped it once a week in the summer, and once a day in all other seasons since Revolutionary times. I have washed it so many times myself, I know just how every crevice and bulge and hollow looks, rounded and worn smooth by dirt-defying fingers. It was half an hour's work to mop it, and if there was a fire in the fire-place, it had to be endured; turning first one fiery cheek and then the other to the blaze.

One morning it occurred to me, to count what a half hour a day would amount to in a year, in five years, in ten—and the result astonished me. I told Simon I didn't mean to ever mop that hearth again, and he laughed and said we women-folks are all alike—get into a beaten rut of doing our work, and there we would tread round and round, without trying to better ourselves in it. "A man is not half as apt to do needless, foolish work as you women-folks are," he went on. "How many minutes do you suppose you spend in a month, hacking meat with a dull butcher-knife, and never think of sharpening it or asking me to, and I am sure I can't think of it unless you do. And there is that great darning needle you use, year in and year out. It's head is so wide and clumsy, you have to use all your strength to mend with it; if it were mine, I should throw it away and get a smaller one. I own it's mostly my fault about this hearth. I ought to have covered it with zinc, years ago, but nobody ever asked me to, and I have got so used to seeing some of the women-folks down on their knees scrubbing it, it wouldn't hardly seem like the forenoon not to have that hearth washed." But the next time he went to the village, he got the zinc, and it requires so much less strength and time to wipe it, I wish my ancestors could have had the benefit of it.

Only think of the hours—yes, months we spend doing needless work, or work that could be made easier. Think of the scrubbing caused by unpainted floors, unpapered ceilings, smoky stoves, &c. Somebody says, "there are some things in our work that ought to be done well; others we should slight, and some others not. worth doing at all." If I had spent the hours on some study or accomplishments, that I spent on that old, broken hearth, I should be much the wiser now. C. P.

For the Woman's Department.

Letter from an Old Contributor.

Home Amusements for Little Children.

"Children must be children!" To the last young miss of a family—who has the love and obedience of all the others, this sentence is merely an old, worn-out saying. It had neither pith or marrow. It did not appeal to my understanding like many copies in my writing book, nor reveal to me as much hidden wisdom as proverbs usually contained. I used to think it would be the easiest thing in the world, to teach a child to speak deferentially and correctly; to sit still while I entertained callers, and to keep a child not to quarrel with his playmates. "I wouldn't allow a child to act so," was my criticism upon my friend's government. It is well. Change is written upon every atom of the universe; it is written also upon our affections, hopes and ideas. Now when I am brought to notice my omission and my children's commission, I repeat, "Children must be children!" and now the sentence means something.

I sat down to write something else. And I have spoken of children—simply because the day being dreary, and the children unusually noisy, I have so many times heard to-day, the winter's oft repeated question. "What shall I do next, mother?" After playing horse with the chairs, Santa Claus with their toys, menagerie with animals cut from paper; tell me farmer mothers, what can I do to amuse little boys of two and four and six years? One thing I have learned; it matters not how fine the city toys may be, they have not half the attraction of a hammer and string, and nothing, however finely gotten up, equals a pile of dirt or puddle of water. My neighbor tells me to make them sit down and keep still. "What!" said I, "after they have been in school all day?" "Yes; I give mine a book, slate and pencil, and they sit down until bed-time. I won't have such a racket." A few nights after this talk, as I sat watching my little ones—rolling and tumbling on the floor—and wondering if I was really doing right to allow them such sport, this same neighbor's little girl entered. She stood amazed—half pleased, half afraid, and shyly asked me if they often played that way. And when I replied in the affirmative she added, "Oh! I wish mother would let us have such fun as that, we have to sit still all the time."

Edward says, let them alone and they will take care of themselves. I sometimes go to church, and when I return and see the little fingers all covered with ink, and the ashes scattered over the floor, I cannot appreciate his theory to live by; although it may be very convenient for Sunday use. Probably I am blind to its beauties, for somehow, it would bring to mind a something you have all read about "idle hands."

A New Year's Greeting.

Once more I come among you, and look for a kindly welcome. During my long silence, I have wondered many times what had become of the chosen few who first labored for the Woman's Column. Many whose initials had become as a true friend. I missed from each number. I wonder if they have been as full of cares as myself,—and if any are numbered with that "silent majority?" How long we shall miss them! And to each of the absent ones—whose memories are surrounded by a charm almost like the memories of childhood—I send a Happy New Year, and may it call forth a greeting from Maine to California, that shall prove good for thought—a balm to weary hearts, a cordial for tired spirits. S. D. B.

For the Woman's Department.

Butter Making in Winter.

Having had considerable trouble this and previous winters in churning, I was induced to try the receipt of M. M. S., for making winter butter, which I find a success; churning in from fifteen to twenty minutes, where before I had churned from one to two hours. Try it all ye faithless ones, and see.

I would like to inquire how to make Graham pudding. L. E. PALMER.

North Sidney.

[Reported for the Maine Farmer.]

State Pomological Society.

Second Winter Meeting—First Day.

The State Pomological Society met in the Judiciary Room, State House, on Wednesday of last week, Jan. 20th, in accordance with previous notice, and was called to order by the President, Z. A. Gilbert, Esq., of East Turner. The Secretary read the call for the present meeting and announced the programme for the several sessions.

The report of the Standing Committee on Fruits was then taken up. This committee consisted of Z. A. Gilbert, S. L. Goodale and Henry McLaughlin—representing the central, western and north-eastern portions of the State. This committee, in entering upon their duties, issued circulars to all prominent fruit growers, and also had the same published in the leading journals of the State asking for information in regard to the varieties of fruits grown in order to embody the facts thus obtained in their report. These facts, and the knowledge and experience of the committee were embodied in the report presented, which was then discussed and perfected in the convention, the knowledge of veteran cultivators in different parts of the State being added to the already very satisfactory and complete report which the Committee had prepared. The report was divided into three sections, viz: 1, Apples; 2, Pears; 3, Small Fruits; the former being given to Mr. Gilbert to work up, the pears assigned to Mr. Goodale, and the small fruits to Mr. McLaughlin. The committee recommended the division of the State into certain well defined sections, adapted to certain varieties of fruits, and not by counties, as some had recommended. This division is arranged in three sections, viz: Northern, Central and Southern. In the former class are placed the counties of Franklin, Somerset, Piscataquis, Aroostook and Northern Oxford; in the second, are the counties of Androscoggin, Kennebec, Waldo, Hancock and Southern Oxford; and in the latter all that portion of the State not included in the above. The report recommended that no variety should appear in the list as suitable for either section, unless recommended by the Society. It was deemed an important point that the list recommended should be small at first—the great fault being with most lists of this kind, that they are too large, and deal with too many varieties. By keeping this list standing, it may be changed as occasion demands. Added to this list the committee recommended a descriptive list of varieties for the benefit of those desiring information upon the subject. The following classification of qualities was made: 1, signifies best; 2, very good; 3, good; 4, poor.

In the following list, recommended by the Society, we have deemed it unnecessary to give particular descriptions of varieties, or their season, as these and relevant points are readily ascertained from the fruit books, and will also appear in the transactions of the Society. Our aim has been to present the list as recommended by the Society so far as varieties are concerned, and their adaptation to the several sections of the State, omitting details with which cultivators are familiar, or which may be found on consulting the standard fruit books. Although the discussions on this list occupied two afternoons during the session, we give it complete in this place for purposes of facilitating reference to it. We call attention to the following explanations in the list: The figures immediately following the name of the variety, refer to the quality of the fruit in accordance with the above classification; the letters N., C., S., refer to the Northern, Central and Southern divisions of the State respectively; the dash —, indicates that the variety is either not cultivated in a particular section or not enough is known about it to recommend it; the letters r, hr, indicate recommended, and highly recommended, respectively, and the ?, introduced but not tested.

List of Fruits for Maine—Apples.

VARIETY.	N.	C.	S.
Alexander,	r		?
American Golden Pippin,			?
American Golden Russet,		r	r
American Summer Pearmain,			?
Baldwin, 2,		hr	r
Beauty of Kent, 2,			?
Benoni, 2,	—	r	r
Black Oxford, 3,	r		?
Blue Pearmain,	—	r	r
Briggs' Auburn,		r	r
Black Gilly flower, 3,		—	—
Canada Reinette, 2,	r	—	—
Cole's Quince, 1,	—	r	r
Congress, 2,	—	r	r
Danvers Winter Sweet, 2,	—	r	r
Duchess of Oldenburg, 2,	hr	r	—
New Brunswicker.			
Dean Apple, 1,(originated in Temple, Franklin County,)	hr	r	?
Early Pennock, 1,	—	r	r
Early Harvest, 2,	—	r	r
Early Strawberry, 2,	—	r	r
English Russet,			?
Esopus Spitzenbergh, 2,		r	r
Franklin Sweet, 1,	—	r	r
Fall Pippin, 2,	hr	r	?
Fall Harvey, 2,(specially recommended for Franklin Co.)	r	r	r
Famouse, 2,	hr	?	?
Foundling,			?
Fall Jenneting,		(not recommended)	
Garvien Royal, 1,		hr	—
Gloria Mundi,	—		—
Golden Ball,			
(Local: Wiscasset, &c.)	—	—	—
Grand Sachem, 4. (Lincoln county)	?		?
Black Detroit.			
Gravenstein, 1,	hr	hr	hr
Garden Apple, (local)	—	?	?
Granite Beauty, 2,			?
Hubbardston Nonesuch, (much esteemed in nortorn section,)	hr	hr	hr
Hurlbert, 2, (Lincoln and York Counties,)	—	r	r
Hightop Sweet, 1,	r	hr	hr
Hoyt Sweet, 1,	—	r	r
Jeffries,	—	r	r
King Sweeting,			
Sherry Sweet, Hightop Sweet.			
Kilham Hill,		(not recommended)	
King of Tompkins, 1,		(on trial)	
Large Yellow Bough, 2,	—	r	r
Sweet Bough.			
Maiden's Blush, 2,			
Minding,	?	?	—
Minister,	—	—	—
Moses Wood, 2,		r	r
Mountain Sweet,	?	?	?
Mother, 1,			
Moody, 2, (local)	r		—
New York Russett,	—	—	—
Nodhead,	—	r	r
Jewett's Fine Red.			
Northern Spy,	—	hr	hr
Nobscot-limbed Greening, 2, (Local: Waldo County.)	hr	hr	hr
Orange Sweet, 4,	—	r	—
Peck's Pleasant, 2,			
Porter, 1,	—	hr	hr
Pomme Royal, 2,		r	r
Golden Ex-ses.			
Pomme Royal, 2,			
English Russet,			
President, 2,	—	r	r
Primate, 1,		hr	hr
Pumpkin Sweet, 2,	—	—	—
Red Canada,			
Old Nonesuch.			
R. I. Greening, 1,	—	hr	hr
Ribston Pippin, 1, (specially recommended for Androscog'n County)	—	r	r
Roxbury Russet, 2, (succeeds best in moist, deep soils, frequently uncertain)	—	r	?
Ranlo,	—	?	?
Ramsdell's Sweet, 2,	r	?	?
Starkey, 1,		hr	
Somerset, 1,	r	hr	hr
Sarah, 3,	—	r	—
Sweet Russet,			
Sweet-and-Sour, 1, (local)			
Superb Sweet, 2,		r	r
Sops o' Wine, 2,			
Red's Early.			
Swaar, 3,	?	—	—
Summer-Sweet Paradise, 2, (local)		r	
Talman Sweet, 2,	hr	hr	hr
Tetofsky, 1,	hr	r	r
Twenty Ounce, 4,		(not recommended)	
Thompson, 2,		r	?
Wagener, 2,	—	?	?
Williams' Favorite,	—	hr	hr
Winthrop Greening, 1,		r	r
Winter White, 1, (Local: from the Vaughn orchard, Hallowell; may be some other variety).			
Yellow Bellflower, (requires moist soil,)	—	r	r
Yellow Newtown Pippin,	—	?	?
Pears.			
SUMMER—Doyenne d'Ete, 1,	—	r	r
Rostiezer, 1,		r	r
Clapp's Favorite, 1,	r	r	r
Dearborn's Seedling, 1 to 2,	—	r	r
Bartlett,		r	r
AUTUMN—Belle Lucrative, 1,			r
Sheldon, 1 to 2,	—	—	r
Goodale, 1 to 2,			r
Parsonage, 1 to 2,			r
Fulton, 1 to 2,		hr	hr
Howell, 1 to 2,		r	r
Louise Bonne of Jersey, 1 to 2,	—	r	r
Urbaniste, 1,	r	r	r
LATE AUTUMN AND WINTER—Beurre d' Anjou, 1,		hr	r
Lawrence, 1,	—	hr	r
Beurre Clairgeau, 1 to 2,		r	r
Winter Nelis, 1,		r	r
Vicar of Winkfield, (cooking)		hr	hr
Small Fruits.			
CURRANTS. Black Naples, Cherry, La Versaillaise, White Grape, (the best white).			
GOOSEBERRIES. Downing, Houghton, Smith's Improved, (promises well).			
RASPBERRIES. French, Knevett's Giant, Orange, Philadelphia, (very productive), Clarke.			
STRAWBERRIES. President Wilder, (one of the best) Triomphe de Gand Wilson's Albany.			

Flower Culture & Ornamental Gardening.

A paper on the above subject was next read by J. A. Varney of North Vassalboro'. After a graceful introduction, in which he referred to the mission of the beautiful in Nature, and especially to the mission and use of flowers, he treated of the cultivation of window and garden flowers, giving the results of his own practices. In window gardening the three great obstacles to success are green fly, red spider and uneven temperature. For the first—which he remarked should never be seen—the speaker recommended tobacco smoke; for the red spider, which is an evidence of too much heat, water is the sure remedy. Take the plant to the sink, lie it upon the side, and give it a good syringing with cool water, so that every leaf will be drenched. In the moist atmosphere of the green-house these insects are seldom seen. For a general collection of house plants let the thermometer range at about 40° by night and 50° by day. If by any mishap your plants should all get frozen, do not throw them away as lost—but take a whole day to bring the room back to the accustomed temperature. Apply cool water to the plants (foliage) so long as any ice can be seen about them. By this treatment the plants may be saved. In regard to watering, let the plants show that they are thirsty before you water them, then water till free drainage shows they are thoroughly wet. This is better than frequent and slight applications. Liquid ammonia, at the rate of a spoonful to a pail of water, furnishes a good fertilizer; or what is equally as good, a liquid fertilizer from the soaking of hen manure—which may be kept in an old tub in some out of the way place. The speaker next referred to the out door garden, remarking that there was no necessity in growing flowers, those most desirable for the masses, only a little perseverance mingled with common sense are necessary to insure success He recommended that only the well tested, hardy varieties should be sown generally, as sure of bringing the greatest success; the novelties should be left to those who have the patience and time to care for them. His directions for the sowing of seeds and general culture of a flower garden, were sensible and practical, commending themselves to the judgment of all. In closing, Mr. Varney introduced the following thoughts from another member of the Committee on awarding the prize for the flower garden plan: "There is beauty in every flower; there is wonder, a miracle even, in every petal! Who made them? Are they a bond of union between us, with our poor, weak aspirations, and the Great Unknown? If so, what a pleasure to contemplate them—what a transport to evolve it from the little seed! You must encourage every woman to try to cultivate them. Then she will begin to be elevated—after this she will have her influence exerted upon stolid, selfish man."

Second Day.

The Exhibition of Fruits.

The Society held an exhibition of fruits during the forenoon of the second day, the tables being heavily loaded. Among the contributors were the following: Z. A. Gilbert, East Turner, fifteen varieties apples; H. W. Woodward, Winthrop, four of apples; Friend Joseph Taylor, Belgrade, thirteen of apples; C. Spaulding, Hallowell, four of apples, one of pears; J. A. Varney, North Vassalboro', one of apples; Alfred Smith, Monmouth, five of pears; Samuel Guild, Augusta, two of apples; J. Pope & Son, Manchester, fifteen of apples; E. K. Butler, Hallowell, one of apples; Mrs. D. A. Fairbanks, Augusta, seven of apples and seven of pears; Mr. Weeks, from Vassalboro', quite a number of varieties of apples, and T. S. McLellan, Brunswick. During a recess in the forenoon, the Society extended an invitation to the members of the Legislature to test the qualities of the fruit on exhibition, and at the end of about fifteen minutes, the tables gave evidence that the gentlemen were expert members of the "tasting committee."

Business Meeting of the Society.

The morning session of the Society was devoted to a business meeting, at which several matters of detail relating to the late Exhibition, left unfinished at that time, were arranged. Among these were the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer relating to the business of their respective departments, which were presented and accepted.

Elmer Hoffees of Warren (Waldoboro' P. O.), Geo. O. Weston of Madison, Dr. A. L. Mersey, of Oxford, and S. L. Goodale of Saco, were then elected members of the Board of Trustees to fill vacancies.

The Standing Committee on Catalogue of Fruits for Maine, was then announced as follows: Z. A. Gilbert, East Turner; S. L. Goodale, Saco; Henry McLaughlin, Bangor.

Mr. H. McLaughlin was instructed to prepare and forward to the American Pomological Society a revised list of fruits adapted to Maine, that the same may appear to better advantage in that report than formerly.

Messrs. Henry McLaughlin of Bangor, Joseph Taylor of Belgrade and G. B. Sawyer of Wiscasset, were appointed delegates to the next session of the American Pomological Society at Chicago.

On motion of Mr. McLaughlin, a vote of thanks to the Legislature for the use of the Representatives Hall, in which to hold their meetings, was unanimously passed.

Discussion.

The Convention having been called to order after the recess, Mr. McLaughlin of Bangor, introduced the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, the annual reports of the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture have been and still are much esteemed by the people, and are every year distributed among the most skillful agriculturists and the most intelligent and liberal patrons and promoters of the agricultural arts, therefore,

Resolved, That while we recognize the necessity of strict economy in State expenditures, we deprecate any reduction in the appropriation for the publication of this most useful report.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Sawyer, Secretary of the Society, who spoke of the high value of the report, and said the farmers in his section would most positively object to a reduction of the number of copies printed.

Mr. McLaughlin of Bangor, said he believed there were no more copies printed than were called for—and they are all read diligently.

Mr. Gilbert, President of the Society, supported the resolution by an able speech, alluding mainly to the interests of the Pomological Society, which represented one of the leading branches of the agriculture of our State—the importance of which was conceded by every intelligent person. He believed all the reports printed were called for, were demanded, and that if more were printed they could be usefully circulated. These agricultural volumes are found on the book shelves and tables of every reading, thinking and intelligent farmer and fruit grower; they are prized and studied, and become text books of our agriculture. The Secretary's report, it was valued in the State and out of it—in the small farm houses and in the large libraries. If the report is to be cut down, don't cover it all.

Mr. Robbins of Winthrop, heartily concurred in the remarks of the previous speaker. In regard to the subject of milk, he had received this week much information from the report. Thought abridgement would be better in other places than in agriculture.

Mr. Thing said that the fact that the reports were found in houses that have no other books upon the shelves, shows how wicked it would be to cut it off. These families read and re-read them, and they set the rising generation to thinking. Spoke of the cost to make a criminal. How can we better spend money than in keeping men from becoming criminals? He severely criticised the Governor's proposition.

Mr. Dunham said that the reports in his section had been sought for and read, and thought the number and size should be increased instead of abridged. The trouble with farmers is that we have to trust too much to our own experiments, in the absence of a text book. He thought the Governor was whipping some one else over the shoulders of the farmers.

Mr. Colburn of Windsor, was surprised that any one in the State should desire to cut down the reports. We don't have half enough of the reports to distribute, and their number should be doubled.

Mr. Gilmore of Dedham, said that if we take away these reports, we strike at the intelligence of the people.

Maj. Dill thought the Governor meant the farmers, as in his first message no allusion was made to the farmers. They were specially mentioned in the second message. Farmers are reading more than ever; we want these reports.

Mr. Percival made some strong remarks in the same direction.

On motion of Mr. Thing, the following resolve was unanimously passed by a rising vote:

Resolved, That the interests of the industrial classes of the State demand that there be no abridgement in the size or numbers of the report of the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture.

The Society extended an invitation to the Pomological Society, the Stock Breeders' Association and the Poultry Association, to unite with them in their exhibition next fall.

The meeting then adjourned.

[Reported for the Maine Farmer.]

Maine Poultry Association.

This Association met in Room 24 at the State House, on Tuesday last, for the purpose of performing its annual business. The attendance of those interested in its objects was quite large. Albert Noyes, Esq., of Bangor, President of the Association,

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Jan. 30, 1875.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

$2.00 IN ADVANCE, OR $2.50 IF NOT PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF DATE OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Postage Free to all Subscribers.

☞ All payments made by subscribers will be credited on the yellow slips attached to their papers. The printed date in connection with the subscriber's name will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for moneys remitted by him.

☞ A subscriber desiring to change his post office direction or to discontinue his paper, must communicate to us the *name of the office to which it has previously been sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

Collectors' Notices.

MR. C. S. AYER is now calling upon our subscribers in Lincoln County.

MR. A. D. FOSTER, of Lakeville, is our authorized agent for NOVA SCOTIA, and will call upon our subscribers in that Province.

MR. W. S. NOYES, of Saco, will call upon our subscribers in York Co. during the winter.

MR. J. P. CLARK will call upon our subscribers in Eastern Somerset and Piscataquis counties.

MR. S. N. TABER is now calling upon our subscribers in West Kennebec.

Particular Notice to Subscribers.

We take pleasure in acknowledging a very prompt and general response to our appeal to delinquent subscribers, for which they will, one and all, please accept our thanks. But we are in receipt of letters from a large number, who have been unable to avail themselves of our offer, within the date fixed, and desiring us to extend the time in which to make payment of arrearages. This we have decided to do, and accordingly give notice, that all subscribers who will remit us the amount already due, and one year in advance, at the rate of two dollars per annum, on *or before the fifteenth day of February*, 1875, shall be entitled to the advantage of our previous offer. And our Agents are instructed to settle with delinquent subscribers upon these terms.

Warlike Signs in Europe.

We published last week a short item from the London *Times*, which stated that momentary dreams of peace had fled and that a general European war is imminent. Similar predictions are made by other European journals, which are well informed in public affairs and whose opinions are entitled to considerable weight. France still smarting under her recent humiliation, is adding annually about two hundred thousand men to her armies and will never be satisfied until she has again measured her strength with her powerful rival. Germany, which in a brief space has grown to be a Colossus of national strength entirely through the force of her armies, is fully alive to the fact that what she gained by the sword must be defended and retained by the same means. Her army is constantly kept on a war basis both in respect to numbers and efficiency, and in the spring it is said that a German camp of instruction is to be formed near Treves, consisting of one hundred and fifty thousand troops. There is no doubt that the rapid growth of the French army causes uneasiness at Berlin and Russia and Austria, who are jealous of German power and ambition, are ready to unite their forces in opposing it in any way that promises success.

The Emperor William in his recent address to the German Parliament, stated that he had no intention of war but desired peace and would compel other powers to preserve it. So far as any expression has been made by the French Government it has been in favor of peace. McMahon recently stated that France is peaceably disposed and that the brave men who fell in the late war left no bequests of revenge. A reference to history shows us that these assurances of peace by European rulers are often delusive. In 1772 Poland was dismembered and the Emperors of Germany and Russia announced to the world that "peace reigned at Warsaw," but for more than two years the unequal conflict raged and until the brave Polist patriots either perished on the field or were driven into exile. When the great Napoleon in 1804, by the aid of the army, put an end to the short-lived Republic and assumed the purple, he assured the Pope who assisted at the coronation, that the Empire meant peace, and yet the ten succeeding years form the bloodiest pages in modern history. Fifty years later the same sentiments were echoed by his successor, and Magenta and Solferino which followed immediately after, attested to the insincerity of his declarations.

We doubt not that the German Emperor in his recently declared peace policy, was sincere, and if he could retain his present position without further bloodshed, it would be vastly for his interest to do so. But between war and peace it may not be entirely within his power to choose. We have said that France is smarting under her recent humiliation, and probably there are few if any able bodied Frenchmen who do not expect to share in the conflict that shall restore her lost prestige as well as her lost territory. France therefore, as it seems to us, is the arbiter which has the power to preserve peace or precipitate war, and if the Government should shape its course in accordance with popular sentiment the war policy is likely to prevail sooner or later, although at present it professes to be dictated by prudential considerations only. It will take about twenty years to perfect the construction of the French army according to the system which has been adopted. It is to consist of nineteen army corps, one of which will be in Algeria and the remainder in France. It is expected that this plan will give France at least two million efficient soldiers, half a million of which will constitute the active force in time of peace, and in case of war this number could be rapidly increased to a million and a half, without drawing on the territorial force, which will constitute a reserve of half a million more.

It is humiliating to our boasted civilization that two of the most enlightened nations of the world are now actively engaged in recruiting and constructing armies and making other preparations to slay each others sons.

It is probable that religious questions will enter more or less into the impending struggle, which will make it all the more vindictive. Catholic France will be ably supported by the Vatican in order that the encroachments upon its power by Bismarck, may be counteracted and punished. When these two great nations are so vigorously arming, it is not strange that other powers catch the infection, and that continental Europe is now a vast military camp. The struggle may not begin at present, but when once commenced, there is no telling when nor how it will end.

DEATH OF A MAINE MAN IN FRANCE. The cable brings intelligence of the death at Pau, France, of Alfred Johnson Monroe, a son of the late Dr. Monroe, of Belfast. Mr. Monroe was a graduate of Bowdoin College in the class of 1871, and removed at once to Baltimore, where he began the study of law. Although noted in college for his rugged health and exceptionally fine physique, his health failed him soon after graduation, and he died of consumption at Pau, whither he had gone with his mother and sister in the hope of regaining strength. Mr. Monroe was a young man of fine abilities and of a generous nature. He will be sincerely mourned by a large circle of friends in Maine.

☞ A grange called the Buxton grange was organized Jan. 20th, and the following officers duly elected and installed, viz: M., Horace Harmon; O., Charles L. Harmon; L., Joseph Davis; S., Samuel Elder; Asst. S., James M. Berry; C., Elias Sanborn; Treas., Thomas H. Smith; Sec., O. F. Deering; G. K., O. A. Berry. The election of lady officers was postponed until next meeting February 3d, at 6 P. M.

CITY NEWS AND GOSSIP. A member of the Legislature has contributed one hundred dollars to the Industrial School for Girls; it is expected that others will do likewise.——The Trustees of the State Normal schools are to have a meeting in this city Feb. 2d.——H. A. DeWitt, Esq., had a severe attack of sickness last week from which he has not fully recovered.——There have been added to the State Library during the past year 1143 volumes, 334 of which were purchased and the balance obtained by donation and exchange.——Some forty or more members of the Masonic Fraternity visited A. F. Emery at his home two miles from the city one evening last week. They were suppered and otherwise entertained, passing a very pleasant evening.——The net proceeds of the recent Catholic levee were over seven hundred dollars.——The sermon by the Rev. Mr. Gage at the Universalist church Sunday evening, was an exhaustive argument against the infliction of the death penalty. The house was well filled, a large number of legislators being present.——The Bangor Amateur Minstrels will give a concert at Granite Hall on the evening of the 9th of February, the proceeds to be devoted to some benevolent object hereafter to be designated.——The following are the bondsmen of the State Treasurer: George W. Pickering, Samuel H. Blake, Charles P. Brown and A. L. Simpson of Bangor; B. H. Cushman and George W. Stanley of Augusta; Samuel E. Spring of Portland.——Mr. Stacy Sec. of State, is confined to his room by a severe cold.——The annual meeting of the Maine Woman's Suffrage Association is to be held at Representatives Hall on Friday the 12th of Feb., afternoon and evening.——The Young Men's Christian Association at their annual meeting Monday evening, elected the following officers: President, David W. Mosher; Vice Presidents, E. E. Davis, Wm. Hodges, Freeman Roberts, Horace Smiley, Henry Bailey; Treasurer, F. W. Kinsman; Corresponding Secretary, S. S. Brooks; Recording Secretary, Henry Bailey; Finance Committee, A. Church, H. K. Choate, Mrs. F. W. Kinsman, Mrs. Horace Smiley, R. McKinney, Wm. Hodges. The Treasurer submitted his report, by which it appears that he has received the past year $271.26, and paid out $188 64, leaving in the treasury at the present time $82.62. The funds are secured by voluntary contributions.——The Parish Sociable of the Universalist Society will be at the residence of M. V. B. Chase on State street, this (Thursday) evening.——Thus far January is the coldest month for many years. The mercury is below zero every morning.——Luther Benson, the talented temperance lecturer, will speak this (Thursday) evening at Meonian Hall.——Another week has passed and there is no improvement in the quality of the gas furnished by the Augusta Gas Light Company. We shall soon be obliged to substitute lamps for gas burners.

☞ News of the death of Mr. Charles H. True, late Editor of the Vermillion, Dakota *Republican*, was received in this city last week. He died on the 14th inst., and his remains are now on the way home. Mr. True has been suffering for several months with hemorrhage of the lungs, with scarcely any hope of recovery. It was his earnest desire to be able to return to Maine and die here.

The deceased was the son of Hon. Josiah True of Litchfield, and was about forty years of age. He was Private Secretary for Governors Coburn and Cony, during which time he, in connection with W. E. S. Whitman, compiled the "History of Maine in the War." He afterward removed to Portland, and became one of the editors and proprietors of the Portland Evening *Star*, which was merged into the *Advertiser* some time later. When he disposed of his interest in the *Star*, he removed to Dakota Territory and established the *Republican* at Vermillion. In November, 1873, he lost much property by forest fires, and a rumor also circulated that he had lost his life in the flames. The letter which contained the news of his death, also stated that a large fire had lately swept over Vermillion, by which the property left by the deceased was probably destroyed. He leaves a wife and one child.

☞ The State Temperance Convention holden at Granite Hall last week, was thinly attended. Governor Dingley presided, and speeches were made by him, Ex-Governor Perham, Revs. Messrs. Randall, Kelley and Allen, and by Mr. Luther Benson, a young man from Indiana. At the evening session Rev. Dr. Taft, Gen. J. A. Hall, Joshua Nye and J. S. Wheelwright were among the speakers. The resolutions were of the usual character. Among the principal suggestions was one looking to the appointment of County Attorneys and Sheriffs by the Governor. The sale of cider and domestic wines was severely condemned and their prohibition asked for. The last resolution states that the use of Alcohol as a medine is one of the most fruitful causes of intemperance, and is dangerous to a reformed inebriate. The extremely cold weather and the bad condition of the roads were among the causes of the light attendance.

☞ We infer from the following item in the Portland *Advertiser*, that the Editor of that paper declines the honor which was conferred upon him at the late Editors' and Publishers' Convention. He says: "The Editors' and Publishers' Association has decided to have no oration next year—at least, that is the interpretation which we put upon the selection of the Editor of this paper as orator. We have always thought it would be well to dispense with this feature of the annual programme, but this indirect method is too much like the way in which the Legislature of Maine has contrived to abolish capital punishment.

☞ The eighth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Maine, will be held at the headquarters of Chamberlain Post, No. 24, at Skowhegan, on Thursday, Jan. 28th, at 7 P. M., for the election of department officers for the ensuing year. The Council of Administration will meet at the Turner House at 4 P. M., upon the day of the encampment. Arrangements have been made with the Maine Central Railroad for free return tickets. Members attending will appear in the uniform of their respective post.

☞ Attention is called to the statement of the Etna Fire Insurance Company, of Hartford, Conn., which appears in another column. This is one of the oldest and most reliable companies in the country. The unusual ravages of the fire king for the past three years, though they have drawn hundreds of thousands of dollars from its treasury, have in no way impaired its efficiency. During the last fifty-five years it has paid out for losses the large sum of $42,000,000. Its net assets at the present time are $6,252,159.88.

☞ Rev. S. S. Cummings will lecture upon the work of the Baldwin Place Home for Little Wanderers, in the Free Baptist Church in this city, next Sunday at 10 1-2 o'clock. At 2 1-2 P. M., he will lecture at the Congregationalist Church and at the Universalist Church in the evening. A choir of children will be present, and sing some choice pieces. A collection will be taken up at the close of each lecture for the benefit of the Home. Mr. Cummings will be at Togus on Monday at 2 1-2 o'clock.

☞ Mr. Martin L. Reynolds of Sidney, drove into the market last week a pair of oxen which he purchased of Jonathan Pinkham of this city, the gross weight of which was 3620 pounds, and probable net weight 2800. These fine beeves were purchased by Messrs. Dow & Storer, and will be served out to their customers.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION. The Commissioners appointed under a resolve of the Legislature to suggest amendments to the Constitution have been in session for several days, in the Council Chamber at the State House. The venerable Judge Kent is the presiding officer and for a few days occupies the same chair in which he sat as Governor of the State thirty-five years ago. The important public offices which he has so long and so ably filled rendered it peculiarly fitting that he should be selected to preside over the deliberations of this Commission. He seems to be enjoying perfect health, and his intellect is as vigorous and strong, apparently, as it was thirty years ago. It may be that a mistake was made in not retaining him for another term upon the Supreme bench.

The recording officer of the Commission is General W. K. Kimball of Paris, whose long experience as clerk of the Judicial Courts for the county of Oxford, peculiarly fit him for the position.

The Commission in their deliberations do not pay special regard to parliamentary rules, but carry on their discussions in a chatty, conversational way, without rising from their seats. The Commission consists of ten persons, and an order was passed preliminary to other proceedings that no proposition should be adopted without the concurrence of six.

Several important amendments to the Constitution have already been agreed upon by the Commission, and several that have been proposed have been voted down.

Among the more important of those adopted are the following: Providing for the election in November instead of September as now provided; providing for biennial elections of Governor, Senators and Representatives; providing that the Legislature shall meet on the first Wednesday in January biennially instead of annually; that the Governor be elected for the term of two years; abolishing the Land Office and transfering the business thereof to the treasury department; that corporations may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by special laws except for municipal purposes and in cases where in the judgment of the Legislature the objects of the corporation cannot be obtained under general laws.

These amendments are of great importance and should receive the careful attention of the Legislature. They are subjects which have been more or less discussed for several years, and their adoption it is believed by many would be in the interest of economy and good government. That amendment providing for the formation of all corporations under general statutes, will do away with more than half the legislation and will be just as well for all parties. As for the general statutes, the less they are "tinkered" the better for everybody, except perhaps members of the legal profession. The substitution of biennial elections and biennial sessions of the Legislature, would be a great saving in money to the State, and under its operation we do not believe the State would suffer in any important interest, and in many respects would be greatly benefitted. At any rate, it is right that the people at large should have a chance to give expression to their views and wishes on the subject, and we trust the Legislature will give them the chance.

On Tuesday Mr. Libby laid on the table a resolve declaring that it is necessary to amend the constitution by incorporating therein propositions to the following effect:

First: That the Legislature shall have power to alter, amend or annul any charter of any corporation existing, and revokable at the adoption of this article and all created hereafter, when the same is injurious to the citizens of the State, in such manner as to cause no injustice to the corporation.

Second: That existing charters or grants under which no organization has been made or business done, shall be subject to the same provision.

Third: That the exercise of eminent domain shall never be construed to prevent the Legislature from taking the property and franchises of incorporated companies and subjecting them to public use.

Fourth: No corporation existing at the time of the adoption of this article shall have the benefit of any future legislation, except on condition of the acceptance of the provisions of the constitution.

Fifth: The power to tax corporations and corporate property shall not be surrendered or suspended by any contract or grant to which the State shall be a party.

Sixth: A declaration that all railroads, canals, etc., are common carriers; also that railroads shall connect and transport each others' passengers, etc., without discrimination.

THE PORTLAND ROBBERY. On Saturday a Boston detective arrived in Portland with John Edwards and Peter Lake of New York, who were arraigned before the Municipal Court, together with James Hayes, alias "Mouse" Hayes, of Portland, and Treasurer Pennell failing to identify them, they were discharged, no one appearing against them. This settles all the present clues to the robbers. The detective says George C. Hammond of Boston, represented himself acquainted with all the persons engaged in the job, accompanied him to New York, and identified four men, and also averred that "Mouse" Hayes of Portland was the fifth. His story being corroborated by all the evidence that appeared, Edwards, Lake and Frank McWilliams, alias Webb, were arrested. The latter was arrested and held in New York by habeas corpus.

At Salmon Falls, Hammond left the train and the detective with the accused came on without him. It now appears that he made an effort to get on board the train as it was starting but failed, and soon after died of hemorrhage of the lungs. The nature and value of the evidence which he might have furnished in the case, had he lived, it is impossible with the present information to estimate. If that evidence was important, it is not probable that his death has wholly destroyed its value; for what he knew he told to the detective. But his sudden disappearance from the scene is another striking feature of a strange affair.

☞ The following is a more complete account of the doings at the meeting of the Editors' and Publishers' Association, than we were able to give last week. The following is a complete list of the officers:

President—Geo. W. Drisco. Machias.

Vice Presidents—Wm. Noyes, Saco; Alden Sprague, Augusta; M. N. Rich, Portland.

Secretary—Joseph Wood, Wiscasset.

Treasurer—Chas. E. Nash, Augusta.

Cor. Secretary—Albro E. Chase, Portland.

Executive Committee—E. H. Elwell. Portland; Brown Thurston, Portland; J. E. Butler, Biddeford.

Resolutions looking to the formation of a National Editors' and Publishers' Association were adopted and a committee appointed to issue a call for the same, consisting of Messrs. Dingley of Lewiston, Wood of Wiscasset, and Shaw of Portland.

Hon. L. A. Emery of Ellsworth, read an interesting paper entitled "The Newspaper before the Law," giving a general review of the legal rights and responsibilities of newspaper publishers.

A pleasant reception at the residence of the Rev. Dr. Quinby took place in the evening, and was largely attended. An interesting and unexpected incident of the reception, was the recitation of an original poem by Mrs. Mary S. Reed of Auburn.

☞ Col. Shaw of the *Christian Mirror* has secured the services of four clergymen as editors of his paper. They are, Rev. E. Y. Hincks, pastor of State street church, Portland; Rev. E. H. Byington, at Brunswick; Rev. L. L. Paine, Waldo, Professor of Bangor Theological Seminary, and Rev. G. L. Dickerman, of Pine street church, Lewiston. With such an able editorial corps, this staunch religious journal must commend itself to the liberal support of the Congregationalists of Maine. The *Mirror* has been changed back to the folio form.

☞ Ex-President Andrew Johnson has been elected United States Senator from Tennessee.

Editor's Table.

LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE. The February number of the above magazine is at hand, and contains its usual amount of interesting matter. "Following the Tiber," which we have read with great interest, is concluded in this number. Published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia.

ST. NICHOLAS. Saint Nicholas for February is at hand, with a charming table of contents. It contains over twenty articles in all, some of them finely illustrated. This magazine has become a great favorite in every household where it is introduced.

ATLANTIC MONTHLY. The Atlantic Monthly for February is a strong number. There are poems by Henry W. Longfellow and Wm. C. Bryant, and articles by Thaxter, Trowbridge, King, and several others. The best American talent is employed on the Atlantic. Subscription $4 per annum. Address, H. O. Houghton & Co., Boston.

SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY. The February number of this sterling periodical comes filled with good things. Each of the twenty-two articles from "For Cupid Dead" to "Etchings," is well worth reading. An article which will receive considerable attention is entitled "Christ's Supernaturalism Scientifically Considered." The new story by J. G. Holland is continued. Published by Scribner & Co., New York.

THE NATIONAL is the title of a new magazine which has just been started at the national capital, by the National Publishing Company. The initial number which we have just received, has an interesting table of contents. Among the more notable articles are "The National Capital," illustrated, "The American Centennial," "The Graves and Cilley Duel," and the commencement chapters of several serials. Terms $4 per year.

From Oliver Ditson & Co., Boston, we have received a package of new music consisting of Polkas, Waltzes and several new and popular songs.

The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal has just entered upon its XCII volume. It has been transferred to the publishing house of H. O. Houghton & Co., and appears in an entire new dress. The number before us contains Dr. Holmes' article on the Physiology of Versitication, a paper that will be widely read.

PETERSON'S JOURNAL. The Feb. number of Petersons Journal of Popular Literature is at hand. A valuable feature of the magazine is that all articles are complete in each number. Terms $3,00 per annum. Address H. Peterson & Co. Philadelphia.

☞ We have received from A. S. Barnes & Co., Easy Lessons in Language, with illustrations and diagrams by S. W. Clark, A. M.; price 35 cents per copy. An excellent work for beginners and designed as a first book in Grammar. Also a work entitled Reasonable Elocution, a Text Book for Schools, Actors, Lawyers, Clergymen, &c. By F. Taverner Graham. This is a little book of two hundred pages and can be profitably studied by all those for whose special use it was written; price per copy $1.25. We have also received Peck's First Lessons in Numbers, the higher numbers of which we have before noticed. Price 25 cents. These works will be forwarded postage paid, on receipt of price. Address as above.

ALDINE. Part thirteen, current series of the Aldine is received. The character of the work is well sustained in this number, both in respect to its engravings and reading matter. An article on the Secret Facts of History will attract general notice. Published by the Aldine Co., No. 58, Maiden Lane, N. Y.

GODEY'S. The Lady's Book for February has a steel engraving entitled "The Soldier's Return." It also has fashion plates, patterns and a fine assortment of reading matter. Published by L. A. Godey, Philadelphia.

HARPER'S. Harper's New Monthly Magazine for February is at hand and contains the usual amount of valuable reading matter. The illustrated articles are unusually attractive, and all the other articles will be found readable and instructive.

DEATH OF AN OLD PRINTER. The *Whig* announces the death, at his home in Bangor, on Saturday evening, of Samuel S. Smith, a well known printer. Mr. Smith was born in Hallowell, February 24th, 1809. At the age of fourteen years he was apprenticed to Messrs. Goodale, Glazier & Co., printers and publishers at Hallowell—afterwards Glazier, Masters & Smith. As an apprentice he worked on the old Hallowell Gazette and Robinson's Almanac. After the custom of the times, he served seven years at his trade, in constant and unremitting labor, and received a suit of clothes and $50 upon the completion of his apprenticeship. He worked in several places, and established a small printing office in Bangor, in 1833. He was the first to set up a power press in the State. He was a faithful, industrious man and a most excellent printer. His disease was consumption. He leaves a widow and two children.

☞ A London dispatch says that four calculations made from the data obtained from the observations of the transit of Venus, give the Sun's parallax as being respectively, 906 seconds, 045 seconds, 925 seconds and 920 seconds, the mean being 924 seconds. This dispatch, according to the World, was submitted to a learned astronomer, who states that according to these calculations the distance of the Sun from the earth is about 88,443,726 miles. Comparing the calculations made in 1769 and those made in 1874, the distance from the earth to the Sun, in the course of the 105 years that have elapsed, has been reduced 6,926,274 miles. This brings us to the startling conclusion that in just 1440 years we shall be swallowed up by the Sun, that is, providing former calculations have been correct. The observations to be made in 1882, it is expected will settle the question as to the liability of the earth to fall into the Sun, and until then we advise people to give themselves no special uneasiness upon the subject, but continue quietly about their usual avocations.

☞ It now seems that the Pacific Mail Company will lose the extra half million subsidy, which cost them more than a million dollars to secure. The subsidy bill was passed in 1872, but the half million was not paid because the Company did not comply with the conditions. Last year the half million was not appropriated, and Tuesday the House appropriation committee voted to cut off the extra half-million for the next fiscal year. In the House a resolution was passed making it in order to amend the post office appropriation bill to repeal the act of 1872 altogether. Thus the steamship company will never realize a cent for its immense expense in 1872. The half-million subsidy which has been paid for several years, and concerning which there never was any scandal, will probably be continued as long as the company performs the prescribed mail service.

THE SCANDAL CASE. The cross and redirect examination of Frank Moulton continued until Wednesday, when he was relieved. But few facts were brought out which were not made public previous to the trial. During the rigid cross-examination to which he was subjected, he was cool and self possessed and not a point was gained from it, for the defence. Mrs. Bradshaw was the next witness.

☞ Senator Chandler of Michigan, who was re-nominated to fill his own vacancy by the Republicans in the Legislature of that State, was defeated on joint ballot of the two branches. Isaac P. Christiancy received 67 votes, and Chandler 63.

Maine Legislature.

Business thus far in the Legislature has been mostly routine, and possessing but little interest to the general public. The committees are now hard at work, and when they begin to report business will be more lively.

On Thursday, in the Senate, a resolve in favor of the Centennial Board, appropriating one thousand dollars, was presented and referred.

An order was introduced looking to a representation of the Maine Poultry Association in the Board of Agriculture.

In the House an order was passed authorizing the county of Knox to loan its credit to the amount of $30,000, to complete the new court house.

A bill was introduced and assigned relating to fencing railroads. It provides that owners of land abutting railroads may, between the 1st of April and the end of October, give written notice to railroad authorities of defects in fences or neglect to build the same, as the case may be; and if the corporation neglects to put the same in repair for 30 days after notice, it shall forfeit to the complainant $100 for each month's neglect, to be recovered in an action on the case.

Among the petitions presented was one offered by Mr. Wilson of Bangor, of Thomas H. Getchell & Son for allowance of claim for rationing troops at encampment, for '74. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs. Also of inhabitants of Moro plantation for act of incorporation; remonstrance of inhabitants of Moro plantation against the same. Referred to the Committee on towns.

In joint convention of the two branches, Silas C. Hatch was re-elected State Treasurer.

On Friday, in the Senate, a communication was received from the Governor, transmitting a statement of the expenses of the Insurance department the past year. Among the items were the following: Postage, $185.19; daily papers, $32.00. The printing for the department during the year, including report, cost $1914.62; binding, $220.70. The total expense of the department was $5,603.54. Receipts for license fees, $4,181.00. Expense of the department to the State over receipts, $1,422.44.

The President announced the following on the part of the Senate, as comprising the joint select committee on temperance:—Messrs. Emery of Hancock, Russell of Androscoggin, and Palmer of Penobscot.

In the House a bill relating to Savings Banks was presented and ordered printed. This bill puts the tax on the average amount of gross deposits, as held on every Saturday for the six months preceding the dates of return; the time allowed by the present law for the banks to pay their tax after it is due, is cut down from 75 to 45 days, so as to bring the money into the treasury during the same fiscal year in which the tax is assessed; prohibits assistant treasurers of savings banks being cashiers of National banks; provides a general penalty for any violation of the law relating to savings banks, of not less than $100 nor more than $500; forbids bond and stock brokers holding office in savings banks.

On Saturday the attendance was light in both branches.

In the Senate a joint select committee was provided for to consider in what way the expenses of the State can be reduced. The President appointed Messrs. Atwood, Cushing and Foster. It was ordered that the Secretary of the Senate publish the usual journal of proceedings.

In the House a communication was received from the Governor as follows:

To the Speaker of House of Representatives:

In reference to the order of the House, asking what action, if any, has been had by the Governor and Council and Adjutant General on certain claims referred to them by resolve of the Legislature approved Feb. 27, 1873, I have the honor to inform you that it does not appear from the journal of the Council of 1873 that any action was taken on that subject in that year. The resolve was brought to the attention of the Council of 1874 and the character of the claims partially investigated; but in consequence of a decided difference of opinion as to their merits, and in view of the fact that their allowance would involve a much larger sum than had been supposed, for the payment of which no appropriation had been made, it was thought proper to remit the claims to the Legislature. NELSON DINGLEY, Jr.

The following bills were passed to be enacted and sent to the Senate: An act to incorporate the Stedman Railroad Co.; to revive the charter of the Ticonic Bank of Waterville, for certain purposes.

In the Senate Monday a bill was introduced to secure the education of youth. (Compulsory Education.)

In the House the order for a joint select committee on retrenchment was tabled.

In the Senate Tuesday, a resolve was presented in favor of paying back to certain towns money paid by them into the State treasury, on account of men recruited for the army in 1864. The report of the Superintendent of Common Schools was received.

In the House orders were introduced to amend the educational laws, and an order in relation to the prevention of the frequency of divorces. The bill in relation to fencing railroads was amended and passed to be engrossed.

The following were passed to be enacted: To make valid the assessment of taxes in the town of Verona for the year 1874; authorizing A. Martin & Sons to build and maintain a wharf in tide waters of Rockport harbor; authorizing Joseph Church et als. to extend a wharf into tide waters in the town of Bristol; to incorporate the Trescott Cheese Co.; authorizing the Cumberland Bone Co. to build a wharf into the tide waters in the town of Boothbay; an act to incorporate the St. Omar Commandery Knights Templar.

The Senate order for a committee to ascertain how the expenses of the State can be reduced, was refused a passage, as the subject was already before the committee on Financial affairs.

Wednesday was a busy day in the committee rooms. The Committee on Education voted to report to the legislature the following bills: To incorporate the St. Augustine School for Boys at Topsham; amendment to school law, allowing the distribution of 20 per cent. of the school moneys to smaller districts; to enable Bates College to donate $600 or more that had been sent to the Express office in his care. It has been ascertained that he bought a ticket at Danville Junction for Chicago, and told the ticket agent there that he was going to San Francisco. It is supposed that he has taken other sums.

☞ The members of the old 9th corps, of which there are many in Maine, will be pleased to learn that General Burnside has been elected to the United States Senate from Rhode Island. There were abler generals in the army than he, but there were none more patriotic, and if goodness, as some contend, is true greatness, General Burnside was one of the greatest men that the late war brought to the surface.

☞ William T. Sturtevant, convicted of the triple murder at Halifax, Mass., in the fall of 1873, has been sentenced to be hanged, the day to be fixed by the Governor of Massachusetts. When brought up for sentence, he made a speech of twenty minutes, in which he denied all knowledge of the crime.

☞ A fire at Boucherville, near Quebec, Tuesday morning, destroyed the farm house occupied by Pierre Dulude, and his wife and eight children were burned to ashes. The oldest child was thirteen years and the youngest a babe. Mr. Dulude was fearfully burned in his effort to save his family.

☞ A fire in the Navy Department building in Washington, Monday afternoon, so damaged it that extensive repairs must be made before it will be fit for occupancy.

KENNEBEC COUNTY ITEMS. At Winthrop the weather is cold, roads badly drifted, hay much lower in the mows if not in price; many wells are dry, and it is difficult to get water for man or beast without melting snow.——A small story and a half house on Elm St., in Waterville, owned by J. W. Philbrick, and occupied by Peter Durse was consumed by fire between two and three o'clock Wednesday morning. The family have lost a great part of their household goods, and the loss falls heavily upon them at this season of the year. No insurance on the building or goods.——The Waterville Classical Institute closed Friday for a vacation of two weeks. The last three days were devoted to the examination, which was very thorough and commendable. The spring term of "Colby" will open on Wednesday, Feb. 3d.——The usual meeting of the National Bank of Winthrop, occurred Jan. 12th, and the following officers were elected; Directors, Chas M. Bailey, David Stanley, Moses Bailey, P. C. Bradford, Levi Jones. C. M. Bailey was elected President.——The first lecture in the union course at Clinton was given at the union church, Jan. 11th, by Rev. C. G. McCully, of Hallowell. Subject;—"The Sandwich Islands." The Fairfield Chronicle says that the lecture was very interesting throughout and elicited the highest praise from all who had the pleasure of listening.——The Gardiner city government has passed an order for the erection of a soldier's monument, not to exceed a cost of $3000.——C. M. Bailey is running his shops at Baileyville (the Branch as he calls it) up to its usual capacity, also at East Readfield and Skowhegan.——Mr. T. H. Spear, who was about starting a torpedo factory at lower end of Water St., Gardiner, was most terribly wounded Saturday, by the bursting of a bottle of preparation used for making torpedoes. Both hands were blown off, his face horribly mangled and he will probably lose the sight of one eye. It seems that Mr. S. was showing Mr. Alonzo Parsons about his premises, taking a bottle of the preparation in his hands and shaking it, when it exploded with the above result.

☞ Montenegro is a small country situated on the shores of the Adriatic sea and adjoining Turkey. It is small in area, and has but few inhabitants, but on account of its defensible situation, it has ever maintained its independence of the neighboring powers. The entire country is an aggregation of hills and lofty mountains, and this with the bravery of the inhabitants has heretofore rendered it impregnable. Turkey on several occasions, has endeavored to subjugate and annex this little republic, but without success.

It is this people that recently declared war against the Sublime Porte. The cause of the difficulty is somewhat obscure, but it seems that sometime last summer the Turks captured a small fortress on the border between the two countries, and massacred several of its defenders. Complaint was made to the Sultan and redress was promised, but the Porte has not fulfilled his promises in good faith and the perpetrators of the outrage have never been punished. Diplomats endeavored to settle the quarrel, but met with no success, and at length worn out by repeated failures to effect a satisfactory settlement, the miniature republic declared war. As compared with the Turks, the Montenegrins are only a handful, but they are a hardy race, trained to the use of arms from childhood and have heretofore proved more invincible than the Scottish Highlanders, though resembling them in many particulars.

The little republic is also backed by Russia and it is this fact that gives importance to the quarrel. The Montenegrins are Christians, and like the Russians, are members of the Greek church. This fact awakens the sympathy of Russia, besides affording her an opportunity of opening again the Eastern question, which she is very anxious to do. This makes England uneasy for the safety of her Eastern Colonies, and gives the question its only real importance. The causes of this outbreak are entirely independent of the causes which at the present time threaten the peace of Europe, but it is hard predicting what complications may grow out of it, before the affair is over.

Later dispatches state that the Sultan has made concessions such as are satisfactory to the Montenegrins and the trouble is over. The issue however, as heretofore, has been settled in favor of the little republic.

☞ A most shocking murder was committed in Piermont, N. H., Friday forenoon. Mr. John P. Emerson and his wife were each about twenty-five years of age. He was at work in the barn and hearing the report of a gun in the direction of the house, he went to see what it was. He found his wife sitting in a chair by the stove with her sewing work in her hand, her head literally blown to pieces and scattered all about. A man by the name of Sawyer who was a boarder in the house is suspected of the murder and is in custody. Emerson and his wife had been married only a short time, and their home is spoken of as both comfortable and happy. The husband' naturally, is in great distraction in his shocking bereavement. Jealously is supposed to be the cause of the crime.

☞ A woman complained to the authorities in Portland, on Saturday, that another woman had thrown vitriol on her, ruining her dress, which was quite a valuable one, and burning her quite seriously. The Marshal interviewed the offender and learned that there was a young man in the case. It seems that this youth had been very attentive to the woman accused of vitriol throwing, and at his request had made every preparation for marriage. To her dismay he suddenly ceased his visits and bestowed all his attention on the complainant. This was too much for number one, so she assaults number two with the vitriol with the results above described. The woman accused was sick in bed when the Marshal saw her. How the affair will turn out remains to be seen.

☞ A special despatch to the Portland *Press* says that Amos Campbell, a stage driver between Skowhegan and Bingham, left town Saturday morning on a supposed visit to a sick sister in Castine, with some $600 or more that had been sent to the Express office in his care. It has been ascertained that he bought a ticket at Danville Junction for Chicago, and told the ticket agent there that he was going to San Francisco. It is supposed that he has taken other sums.

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☞ A fire in the Navy Department building in Washington, Monday afternoon, so damaged it that extensive repairs must be made before it will be fit for occupancy.

Items of Maine News.

Capt. Israel Snow, a well known citizen of Rockland, died Monday.

A county lodge of Grangers has been organized in Waldo county.

The hog cholera has broken out in Kittery, and many have lost valuable animals.

The light-house keeper at Owl's Head, near Rockland, reports that 26,527 vessels passed the light during the past year.

There will be a Masonic installation at Skowhegan, Friday evening next. Hon. J. H. Drummond will deliver an address.

Joseph Bemis of Fryeburg, the last 1812 pensioner in the town, died Thursday, aged 85 years.

Mrs. H. E. Prentiss of Bangor, was very seriously injured Wednesday, by being knocked down by a runaway horse.

Burglars who visited A. M. Cobb's store in Thomaston, Tuesday night, were quite successful.

Gen. Thoms has recommended the improvement of the Kennebunk river at Wading Point and Mitchell Point, at a cost of $5000.

The Scotch people at Hartland, numbering between 50 and 75, propose to invite guests and celebrate Burns' anniversary, Jan. 25th.

John Weymouth, an agent for gas burners, was frozen to death near North Shapleigh, Friday morning. He was on his way to Great Falls.

The weather the first twenty days of January averaged 30 below zero in Skowhegan. The oldest inhabitant shakes his head. He can't recall another so long, so cold, so dry a spell. So says an Exchange.

The primary examination of witnesses in the claim of the McLoon heirs vs. government, for loss of ship Louisa Hatch by the pirate Alabama, commenced in Rockland, Saturday.

Cyrus Eaton, A. M., the venerable historian of Warren, Thomaston, Rockland and South Thomaston, died at Warren, Thursday, at the advanced age of 91 years.

A Mrs. Hughes was buried Thursday last at Linneus. She was about 100 years old. She has several children, the youngest of whom is nearly 70 years old.

The Lewiston Journal says: The amount of suffering and want in that city far exceeds anything ever experienced before.

An aged man named Harmon of South Liberty, cut his throat with a razor on Sunday, the 10th inst., inflicting a gash one and a half inches deep. It is very doubtful if he recovers.

Saturday evening week the house of Chas. D. Lane of Brooks, was found to be on fire. The alarm was quickly given and the fire extinguished before any material damage was done.

The wreck of the steamer Georgia was sold at auction at the British consulate Thursday for $1775 to J. Ham Boyd, it is reported, for Geo. W. Townsend & Co. of Boston.

The

The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

The Markets.

Brighton Cattle Market.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 27.

At market for the current week—Cattle 2038; sheep and lambs 3794; Swine 7,350. Number of Western Cattle 1778. Northern Cattle and Working Oxen and Milch Cows, 186. Eastern Cattle 78.

BEEF CATTLE—Prices per 100 lbs. live weight, extra quality $7 50@8 00; first quality $6 75@7 25; second quality $6 25@6 50; third quality $5 25@6 00; poorest grade of coarse Oxen, Bulls, &c., $3 75@5 00.

BRIGHTON HIDES—9@9c ₩ lb.; Brighton Tallow 5½@6c ₩ lb.

COUNTRY HIDES—8@8½c ₩ lb.; Country Tallow 5@5½c ₩ lb.

CALF SKINS—14@15c ₩ lb. Sheep and Lamb Skins $1@1 50 each.

The supply of Cattle from the West has not been so large this week as it was one week ago. The quality up a nan average was rather better, but the prices upon all grades have not materially changed from those obtained one week ago. There was a fair supply brought in the latter part of the week, most of which were sold upon the day of arrival. There were but few Northern Cattle driven over from Watertown. Nearly all the Western Cattle that are landed at Watertown are driven to Brighton to be disposed of. From Maine the supply was light, a part of them being Working Oxen.

WORKING OXEN.—Trade for Working Oxen has been dull. A few pairs each week is all the market requires during the winter months. We quote sales of 1 pr. gh 7 lb, five weight 3000 lbs @$275; 1 pr, 7 ft, 6 in, $165; 1 pr, 6 ft 8 in, 2750 lbs, $165; 1 pr, 6 ft 6 in, 2550 lbs, $140; 1 pr, 6 ft 7 in, 2450, $145.

STOCK CATTLE.—Yearlings $11@15; two year olds $19@27; three year olds $25@45 ₩ head. Many of the small Cattle that are in a fair condition are sold for beef.

MILCH COWS.—Extra $55@90; ordinary $35@50; Store Cows $18@45 per head. There are but few extra or fancy breed of Cows offered in market for sale, most of them being of an ordinary grade. Prices of Milch Cows do not vary much from week to week. Good Cows sell well at fair prices.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—From the West there was a fair supply, all owned by butchers, costing landed at Brighton from 6¼@7c per lb. From the North the supply was light, and prices lower than last week.

SWINE—Store Pigs, wholesale 7@8c per lb; retail 8 @9c per lb. Fat Hogs 7300 in market; prices 8@8½c per lb live weight.

Wool Market.

BOSTON, Jan. 27.

The movements in Wool have been unimportant the past week, as the scarcity of water has interfered with manufacturing, and a number of small mills have been compelled to stop. In prices no material change. On a dull market there is always some slight fluctuation, but desirable lots of both fleece and pulled are held firmly. Combing and clothing fleeces are very scarce, and an advance has been obtained for desirable lots. The sales include 125,000 s Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces at 54@55c, including medium to XX; 100,000 lbs Michigan fleeces at 49@52c, up to 55c for choice medium; 125,000 lbs Western and other fleeces at 45@53c; 80,000 lbs unwashed and unmerchantable fleeces at 35@45c; 85,000 s a combing and clothing fleeces at 57@58c for washed, and 45c for unwashed; 200,000 s super and X pulled at 40@58c; 75,000 s a spring California 1.30@37½c; 250,000 s a fair to choice fleeces at 57@58c for washed, and 45c for unwashed; 3000 lbs Montana at 56c; and 180,000 s a noi s at 32½@60c per lb. In foreign no movement of any importance.

Boston Market.

BOSTON, Jan. 27.

FLOUR AND GRAIN—The demand for Flour is steady but moderate, and prices remain about the same; we quote:

Western Superfine at $4 25@4 50; common extras at $4 75@5 00; Milwaukie and Minnesota extras at $5 25@6 25; white wheat Ohio, Indiana and Michigan at $5 50@6 00; Illinois at $5 50@7 00; St. Louis at $5 75 @8 00 ₩ bbl. Southern Flour is quiet at $4 75@8 00 ₩ bbl. for common extras and choice family; and fancy Minnesota at $7 50@9 00 ₩ bbl. Corn is quiet at 70c ₩ bush. for mixed and yellow. Oats are firm at 67@71c ₩ bush for brown and white. Rye $1 00@1 05 ₩ bush. Shorts, Fine Feed and Middlings at $28@32 ₩ ton.

PROVISIONS—Pork is steady; sales at $17 00@17 50 for prime; $21 00@21 50 for mess $23 00@24 00 ₩ bbl. for clear. Beef ranges from $10 50@13 50 mess and extra mess, and $16 00@17 00 ₩ bbl. for family. Lard 14½@14½c ₩ lb. for city and Western. Smoked Hams 12@13c lb. Butter sells at 25@42c ₩ lb. and Cheese from 12@16c ₩ lb. as to quality.

TEA AND COFFEE—Teas are firm and have been selling at 33@36c per pound. White Beans have been in moderate demand, with sales at $1 75@1 80 per bush for mediums, $2 20@2 40 for extra pea, and $3 for Yellow Eyes. Potatoes are lower, with sales of Jacksons at 70@80c, and Early Rose at 60@70c per bushel as to quality. Onions are dull and have been in moderate demand at $2 50@3 per bbl, as to quality. Green Apples are plenty and dull at prices ranging from $1 25 @2 25 per bbl, as to quality. Poultry has been in better demand with sales at 22@26c per lb as to quality.

HAY—The market is steady for this article, with sales of prime at $2@2 25 per ton; and common and medium grades at $1@2 per ton. Rye Straw has been selling at $17@18 per ton.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.

COTTON—Sales——bales—middling uplands @15½.

FLOUR—Sales 12,645 bbls.—State $5 20@5 30; Round Hoop Ohio, $5 10@6 85; Western $4 50@5 75; Southern $5 00@7 75.

WHEAT—Sales 60,000 bush. No. 2 Milwaukie, $1 11@ $1 11½; No. 3, $1 07@——; No. 1, Chicago, $1 21@1 31; No. 2, $1 06@1 09; No. 2, Mixed, $1 44; No. 3, $1 30; Winter Red, $1 25@1 28½; Amber, $1 25@1 28½; No. 1 Iowa, $1 08@1 25; White Michigan, $1 30@1 31; Winter Western, $1 25@1 25.

CORN—Sales 30,000 bushels. Western 83@84.

OATS—Sales 17,000 bushels—Western 68@68½.

PORK—Sales 100 bbls. New Mess, $19 50@19 75.

LARD—Steam, 13½; Kettle, 14c.

SUGAR—Refining, 8@8¼; Porto Rico, 7¾@8; Cuba, —@7; Havana White, 9.

Gold and Stock Market.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.

Gold 112@113.

Money 2@3 per cent.

United States Sixes (coupons) 1881 110½; 5-20's 1862, 115½; 1864, 117½; 1865, 119½; 1865 (January and July), 118½; 1867, 119½; 1868, 119½; New 5's, 115; 10-40's (coupons), 116½; Currency, 119.

Augusta City Market.

THURSDAY, Jan. 28.

APPLES—Choice hand picked fruit just now somewhat scarce, although prices remain unchanged, viz: —@2 00@2 25 per bbl.

BUTTER.—In better demand in our local market than last week, although no difference in quotations appear. Tub butter 32c; choice ball butter 35c.

BEANS—Pea and Y-low Eyes $3 50@3 75.

CHEESE—Factory 14c at wholesale; domestic 12@ 14c.

FLOUR—Superfine to common extra $6 50@7 50; Good brands at $7 50@8 00; choice Western $8 50; St. Louis favorite brands $9 00@11 00.

GRAIN—Corn $1 10; oats 65c; barley and rye, nominal.

HAY—But few loads on our streets last week on account of bad travelling. Sales at $15 00. Straw, loose 7@8.

HIDES AND SKINS—Hides, 8c; calf skins, 13@15c; wool skins and lamb skins 75c@$1 25.

LIME—$1 30 ₩ cask.

MEAL—Corn $1 05; rye $1 75 ₩ bushel.

PRODUCE—Potatoes in demand at 50c; eggs 32c; lard 18c.

SHOOTS—$1 75 per ane hundred pounds.

PROVISIONS—Clear salt pork, $28@30, ₩ 200 lbs; beef ₩ side 9@10c; round hog 9@10c; ham 14@16c; turkeys 15@18c; spring lamb 8@9c; veals 7@8c; mutton 7@8c; spring chickens 17@18c; geese 15c.

WOOD—Medium to fine, washed 40@45c; unwashed one fourth discount. Nominal.

WOOD—Hard wood, seasoned under cover, $6 00@ 00 ₩ cord; mill wood, delivered, $4 ₩ cord.

NOTE. The bad travelling and cold weather have prevented the moving of apples, potatoes, and country produce generally—and hence our market is not well supplied with these commodities this week. On this account prices are somewhat higher than last week; but when brought in again with the rising of the "snow embargo", our quotations will, no doubt, drop down in consequence.

Portland Market.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 27.

APPLES—Green $1 50@2 50; dried 7½@8c for Western; 8@12c for Eastern.

BEANS—We quote hand-picked pea beans at $2 75 @3 00; yellow eyes, $3 00@3 25.

BUTTER—Selling at 35@40c for family. Store, from 30@35c ₩ lb.

CHEESE—Factory is selling at 16@17c ₩ lb; Vermont and New York Dairy, 14@15.

FISH—We quote large shore $3 50@5 75; large bank $3 25@3 50; small $2 75@4 50; pollock $3 00@4 00; hake $2 75@3 00 ₩ qtl; herring $4 25@5 00 ₩ bbl; scaled, ₩ box, 25@25c; mackerel ₩ bbl—Bay No. 3 to No. 1, $8 00@12 00; Shore No. 1 and 2, $9 00@14 00.

FLOUR—We quote Superfine, $4 25@4 50; Spring X and XX, $5 00@6 00; Michigan Winter X and XX, $7 00@8 25; Illinois X and XX, $6 75@9 00; St. Louis X and XX, $8 25@9 00.

GRAIN—We quote mixed Corn at 80@90 and yellow 90c. Oats are worth 68@70c, fine feed at $35 ₩ ton, and shorts at $30 ₩ ton.

HAY—Loose, $16 00@20 00 ₩ ton for prime. Pressed selling at $16 00@18 00. Baled Straw $12@14 ₩ ton for prime.

LARD—Prime Western ₩ tierce, 15c ₩ lb; per keg 16@16½c.

PORK—White, ₩ ton, $3 00; blue $2 75; ground in bbls $8 00@9 00; calcined in bbls $2 75@3 00.

PRODUCE—We quote beef side at 9@13c; veal 8@10; mutton 12@13c; chickens 15@18c; turkeys 18@20c; eggs 30@31c; potatoes 60@75c ₩ bush; onions $4 75 ₩ bbl. Round hogs, 8@9.

PROVISIONS—We quote as follows: Mess beef, Chicago, $12 00@13 50; plate $13 00; extra plate $16 50@ 17 00; pork mess, $25 50; clear, $24 50@25 00; mess $22 00@22 50. Hams 12@14c.

Bangor Produce Market.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 27.

BEANS—Yellow eyes $2 75@2 90 ₩ bush; hand-picked $3 00 ₩ bushel; Pea Beans $2 50@2 75.

BUTTER—Is worth from 28@30c ₩ lb, according to quality.

EGGS—Selling at 30c ₩ dozen.

HAY—Best qualities loose sell at $12 00@14 00 ₩ ton

GRAIN—Oats are now worth 65c ₩ bush; corn $1 00@1 05 ₩ bush.

POTATOES—Selling in the market at 60c ₩ bush

PROVISIONS—Good fresh beef, by the side worth $12@16 ₩ lb; round hogs 10@11c; lambs 8@9c.

HIDES AND SKINS—Lambs pelts $1 25@2 00 each. Hides 7@7½c ₩ lb.

WOOL—Selling dull at 30@45c per lb.

☞ A. Bailey who was arrested in Montpelier recently for attempting to swindle several firms in New Hampshire has been sentenced to four years in the State Prison. He made several confessions, one of which was that he set fire to a barn owned by A. McElhaney, in Sioux City, January, 1871; also, in March of the same year, the barn and lumber yard of Sanborn & Follett, in the same place; January 10, 1871, he set fire to the house of Guazaguar Bourse, Sioux City. He says he received $200 from parties for burning the above stables. A reward of $1000 was offered by Mayor Hedges of Sioux City for his apprehension, and another man had been imprisoned for the crime but made his escape, having served two years. He says he was born in Cleveland, O., and also states that he went to the Paris Exposition for a lot of Clevealnders. After his return from Europe, he was for a time clerking in Chicago, and for A. T. Stewart in New York. Bailey had numerous aliases, but he says that his right name is A. L. Barrand.

LOSS OF A VALUABLE PICTURE. British art has suffered an irreparable loss in the destruction of Hogarth's famous picture of "The Strolling Players in a Barn." It was in the country mansion of the Wood family. The owner of the estate, who has just attained his majority, had arranged to rent his house, and had removed most of his pictures, intending to place the Hogarth picture in the loan gallery of a public museum. Before this intention was carried out a fire took place, and the picture was destroyed. It was painted in 1741 for an ancestor of its last owner, Hogarth receiving $375 for it, and his receipt for the sum was attached to the picture.

Congressional Summary.

Forty-Third Congress.

THURSDAY, Jan. 21.

SENATE. The Vice President laid before the Senate the message of the President in regard to strengthening coast defences, similar to that read in the House yesterday. Referred to the Military Committee.

Mr. Wright, from the Committee on Civil Service, reported adversely on the bill to abolish the system of mileage, and it was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Hamlin, from the Committee on Civil Service, reported adversely on the bill to reduce the salary of the President of the United States, with a request that it be put on the calendar with adverse report. It was so ordered.

HOUSE. After the presentation of a large number memorials and resolutions of little public interest, the question came up of reconsidering the vote by which the Indian appropriation bill was rejected yesterday.— The vote was reconsidered.

Mr. Holton, of Indiana, moved to lay the bill on the table, yeas 114, nays 132. The bill was again rejected, yeas 120, nays 126. The vote was again reconsidered without the yeas and nays, and finally the bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union. The Speaker stated that the bill went to the Committee of the Whole as an entirely new bill subject to amendment.

Mr. Dawes presented a letter from Chas. A. Wetmore, the witness yesterday committed for contempt, and intimated that the apology therein contained was satisfactory. He therefore moved his discharge. Agreed to.

FRIDAY, Jan. 22.

SENATE. Mr. West of Louisiana, presented the credentials of P. B. S. Pinchback as senator from Louisiana, which were read.

Mr. Sherman moved that the credentials and accompanying papers be referred to the Committee on Elections. Agreed to.

Mr. Edmunds presented a joint resolution of the Vermont Legislature against the ratification of the Canadian treaty. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Saulsbury of Delaware, presented the credentials of Thomas F. Bayard, senator elect from that state for six years, from March 4, 1875.

The Senate then took up the Constitutional amendment, and Mr. Anthony spoke at length.

HOUSE. Many private bills were introduced and referred.

Mr. Butler of Mass., by unanimous consent, introduced a bill authorizing Lt. Com. Fred. Pierson to accept from the Queen of Great Britain the decoration of the military Order of Bath, for gallant services in the combined attack on the Japanese forts and piratical vessels, which was passed.

The House afterwards went into Committee of the Whole on the present calendar. Several bills were passed. Adjourned till Monday.

SATURDAY, Jan. 23.

Neither branch was in session.

MONDAY, Jan. 25.

SENATE. The Secretary called the Senate to order and read a letter from Vice President Wilson dated Saturday last, announcing that a pressing engagement would prevent his attendance at the opening of the Senate to-day.

Mr. Boutwell submitted a resolution declaring Henry B. Anthony of Rhode Island, President. pro. tem. Agreed to.

Mr. Morrell of Maine presented the credentials of Hannibal Hamlin as Senator for the United States from Maine for six years, from March 4, 1865. Placed on file.

Senate bill to amend act of July 17, 1862, for a better government of the navy of the United States, was passed.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the resolution of Schurz, instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire what legislation by Congress is necessary to secure to the people of Louisiana the rights of self government.

Mr. Johnston of Va., concluded his argument commenced on Friday last.

HOUSE. A large number of bills were introduced and referred, including two in regard to telegraph companies establishing rates.

An effort was made to prevent any filibuster during the rest of the session by giving the Speaker power to refuse recognizing any dilatory motions, but after a storm of protest from the Democratic side, joined in by a few Republicans, the effort was defeated.

On motion of Mr. Smith of Ohio it was agreed that it should be in order to move an amendment to the Post-office appropriation bill, repealing the additional Pacific Mail subsidy.

Mr. Denham of Ky., presented a memorial and petition signed by 6000 residents of Kentucky, asking Congress to submit for ratification an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, prohibiting the manufacture, importation and sale of spirituous liquors, such amendment to take effect Jan. 1, 1876. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Adjourned.

TUESDAY Jan. 26.

SENATE. The following bills were disposed of: To facilitate the disposition of cases in the Supreme Court of the United States and other purposes, passed; a bill amending the act to regulate the fees and costs to be allowed clerks, marshals and attorneys of the circuit and district courts of the United States, approved Feb. 16, 1850, passed.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the Louisiana resolution of Schurz.

Mr. Pease continued his argument.

Mr. Edmunds of Vermont, introduced a bill to provide for and regulate the counting of votes for President and Vice President. Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections. The bill provides that from three to ten days next after the first Wednesday in every January following any election for President or Vice President the Senate shall appoint four senators and the House of Representatives five of its members, and such nine persons shall constitute a committee upon the election of President and Vice President. A majority of said committee shall be a quorum, and the concurence of said majority shall be necessary in any action thereof. Each member of the committee shall take a special oath to perform the duties imposed upon him by the provisions of this bill. The Senate and House are required to meet together in the hall of the House at one o'clock on said last Monday of January, and meet daily, Sundays excepted, until the duties herein are performed. The President of the Senate is to preside and open all certificates and papers purporting to be certificates of votes cast for President and Vice President, and after so opening them the papers shall be delivered to the committee above provided for, who shall proceed to examine the same and report in writing as soon as possible the vote and what person or persons have been, pursuant to law, elected President or Vice President. If, when the report is made, any question is raised by any senator or member of the House touching the legal validity of any vote or proceedings of the committee the two Houses shall consider the question separately, and if they concur, their judgment shall stand, and the vote of the committee be modified accordingly. But if the two Houses do not concur then the report of the committee shall stand, and persons so declared elected shall be deemed *prima facia* entitled to exercise the functions of their offices, subject to any contest made in due course of law.

Mr. Cameron, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported favorably on the joint resolution authorizing the President to appoint a commissioner to attend the international penitentiary congress at Rome, next year. Placed on the calendar.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the resolution of Mr. Schurz.

HOUSE. The judiciary committee, having the day assigned to it made reports on various subjects, including one to amend the Constitution by making the Presidential term six years, and declaring the President ineligible to office more than one term. The question was discussed.

Mr. Butler reported a resolution in reference to the McGarrahan and New Ideria mining company's claims in California, directing the commissioner of the general land office to institute legal proceedings in the name of the government against the New Ideria mining company in the Circuit Court of the United States for California to restrain further waste of the property, for the appointment of a receiver and for the recovery of $7,000,000 illegitimately and wrongfully taken therefrom by the new Ideria mining company and such other actions as the committee may deem proper. Also directing the Secretary of the Interior not to issue patents to the New Ideria mining company until legal proceedings are determined.

A long discussion followed.

Finally Butler moved the previous question and it was seconded in the face of noisy opposition and of the efforts of Messrs. Houghton and Page of California, to secure an adjournment, which would have defeated the resolution as the special assignment of the Judiciary Committee applied only to this day. When it came to a vote on the adoption of the resolution, an attempt was made to defeat it by members opposed to it refraining from voting, but as the friends of the measure intimated they would insist on a call of the House a quorum eventually passed between the tellers, and the resolution was declared adopted—136 to 111.

The House at 5.40 p. m. adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 27.

SENATE. Numerous petitions were presented for the passage of a law prohibiting the sale, importation or manufacture of alcholic liquor as a beverage in the District of Columbia and Territories of the United States. Referred to the Finance Committee.

At the expiration of the morning hour the Senate resumed the consideration of Mr. Schurz's resolution in regard to Louisana, and Mr. Thurman took the floor. He said that the resolutions required that the Senate should not stop at the election of 1874 in that State, but should go back to that of 1872, and he proposed to speak first of what took place at the election of 1872. He knew it was a thrice told tale, and he would therefore be very tedious, but he could not make a complete statement without going over the facts, and he felt compelled to do so.

The Senate at 5 o'clock adjourned.

HOUSE. Mr. Butler of Mass., as a question of privilege, called up a motion made by him last session to re-consider the vote by which the civil rights bill was referred to the Judiciary.

A point of order was raised, but the Speaker decided that the right existed.

Thereupon the Democrats fell back upon the policy of filibustering.

The 16th roll call was commenced at 11 o'clock. There is no prospect of any legislation to-night.

RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.—The annual report of the Railroad Commissioners, Hon. S. H. Blake, Col. A. W. Wildes and John F. Anderson, Esq., begins with the flattering statement that the railroads of the State are in a better condition than ever before, and that while the depression of the times has affected them, their future looks brighter and better than heretofore. The Grand Trunk, Maine Central, and Portland and Rochester are specially mentioned in this connection. It is further stated that no great accident has taken place during the year, no life having been lost on any of them through the neglect of officers or employes. Three new railroads have been opened for business the past year, viz.: the Somerset 20 miles long, the Lewiston and Auburn branch of the Grand Trunk 5 1-2 miles long, and the Bucksport and Bangor 18 miles long. In addition to this the Bangor and Piscataquis has been extended from Dover to Abbot, 6 miles, making the aggregate length of railroads in the State 960 1-2 miles.

They consider the subject of the maximum length, weight and rate of speed which it is economical to run trains. This is very thoroughly considered and the best authorities consulted. The rule generally obtained in this country is from 12 to 15 miles an hour for freight and 30 for passenger trains. The Commissioners think that railroads get little credit for running at high rates, for when the public gets 25 miles an hour, it will demand 60 and so on. In view of all the facts, the Commissioners raise the inquiry whether it would not be best to reduce the great length and weight of trains by making more smaller ones, and to reduce the speed inversely to the weight of trains moved, so as to accord more strictly with the known natural law of applied power.

The next subject noticed in the report is "the organized movement against permitting railroad companies to adjust their own rates of toll." Without apologizing for or extenuating those breaches of trust and delinquencies so much complained of in the West and elsewhere, the Commissioners discuss this question at length, taking grounds against the general assumption of the Grangers of the West, and maintaining that the tariff should pay operating expenses and interest on the actual cost of the road, even if the same could now be built for a much less sum, since the money used in the construction of new lines had in most instances been raised at great disadvantage. In view of this is it not right that railroad managers should impose sufficient toll to maintain their roads and pay their interest when they prove that such an amount is necessary? This subject, the Commissioners think, should not be meddled with by the Legislature.

The Commissioners next consider the discriminations between local and through traffic. Various authorities in the West are quoted to show that the system of cheap through rates works no injury to the local shipper, as the cost of his rates are not enhanced thereby, and the railroads and both consumer and producer wide apart are benefitted. The report of the Massachusetts Commissioners, to whom this matter was referred by the Legislature, is quoted to show that in all cases in this country and England where an attempt has been made to fix a maximum limit of rates, it has most always failed. The Commissioners think upon due reflection, all but one-sided and impracticable men will conclude, upon fair examination of the whole subject, that neither State or Federal authorities, nor even the ablest experts, can impose any inflexible rates of toll upon railroads, without inflicting serious if not fatal injury, not only upon the most efficient agency of the country's development, but upon a very large part, if not the whole of the active business world.

From the consideration of this most difficult and important problem of tariff rates the Commissioners drop down to a subject which every traveller can appreciate—"the clamorous importunity of hackmen at our city stations." The policy of the steamboat companies at Portland who keep objectionable hackmen from their wharves, is commended and recommended to such railroads as control yards of their own. To get rid of the annoyances now suffered by the traveling public, it is suggested that hackmen be required to stand quietly by their carriages so that the traveller may view man and vehicle together and make a satisfactory selection, or that a hack ticket office be provided.

Following this portion of the report is a long communication from a gentleman evidently acquainted with railroad management, in which many errors and mistakes of railroad management are noted. Among other things he thinks that every night car should be a sleeping car. He says that cars can be constructed which will accommodate as many sleeping passengers as it is possible to do in seats. Under the same head of railroad management and economy the Commissioners call attention to the plan of Chief Engineer Holt of the Maine Central, by which nine premiums were offered to the section men on that road, to be given to those who made the greatest improvement on their respective sections, and guarded against the destruction of the company's property. The general adoption of such a plan would secure much more efficient service.

SENATOR ATWOOD.—The following notice of Mr. Fred Atwood, Senator from Waldo County, is copied from the Legislative Biographies, and will interest those with whom he has been brought into business relations during the past few years:

ATWOOD, FRED, Winterport. (Waldo Co.) Republican, Methodist, merchant. (dealer in agricultural implements,) married; age 36. Born in Frankfort, now Winterport, and attended the town schools. Entered a country store at ten years of age, and since that time has been engaged in mercantile business. Has had experience in business in New York, Boston, and Providence, R. I., in the drug business a short time, and afterwards dealer in spars and ship stock; furnished spars for the noted New Ironsides, at Philadelphia. During the war shipped largely of hay, ice, lumber, potatoes and grain. Sold his first mowing machine in 1866; two years later took the general agency for the Union mower and Whitcomb's horse rake. In 1870, introduced the "Meadow King" mower to the farmers of Maine; the mower proved to be a valuable implement, and it had a large sale. In 1871, introduced the Hollingsworth sulkey horse rake. In 1873, introduced the Silver Eagle plow, Gray's horse power and other implements, and the sales of 1874 have proved the selections valuable. Introduced this year the farmer's favorite cider mill, the orders for which have been larger than the supply. Now having built for 1875 a line of steel plows, with popular prices, expressly for his trade in Maine. Trustee of N. E. Agricultural Society and N. E. Farmer's Club, director and originator of the Maine Poultry Association; elected for a third time as member of republican state committee, of which he is now a member; believes in farming and farmers, and that Maine is the best State for a farmer in the Union.

OCEAN PERILS. The Bureau Veritas reports the following list of maritime disasters for November, 1874, concerning all flags: Sailing vessels reported lost, 148, viz: 46 English, 20 French, 12 German, 10 Norwegian, 7 Dutch, 6 Italian, 5 Spanish, 4 Danish, 4 Russian, 4 Siamese, 4 Austrian, 3 Swedish, 2 Greek, 1 Belgian and 1 Portuguese. In this number are included eight sailing vessels reported missing. Steamers reported lost, 17, viz: 11 English, 1 American, 1 Belgian, 1 French, 1 German, 1 Spanish and 1 Swedish. In this number are included two steamers reported missing.

☞ A good story is told of Judge P. of Vermont, well known as a pronounced teetotaler, to illustrate the value of some men's professions. Invited to attend some agricultural festival, the Judge was asked upon his arrival if he would have a glass of milk, and upon responding "yes," was proffered a glass of what looked like milk, but was in fact a most potent milk punch. Taking a sip at first, the Judge soon returned to the glass and drained it to the bottom, when he returned it to his entertainer with the exclamation, "*Lord, what a cow!*"

Foreign News.

England.

London, Jan. 22. The *Globe* says it has authority for stating that the British Government has demanded an explanation and apology from Peru for removing a passenger from a British steamer at Callao.

London, Jan. 25. Rev. Charles Kingsley died yesterday, aged 46.

A meeting of the Liberal members of Parliament to select a leader for their party, is appointed for Feb. 3.

An autograph letter from Alfonso was delivered to Queen Victoria on Saturday, formally advising her of his accession to the throne and assuring her of his intention to rule over Spain on constitutional principles. A similar notification has been received by France.

France.

London, Jan. 25. The *Times'* correspondent at Paris telegraphs that it is considered that the Duke de Broglie, by the part he took in Friday's debate in the Assembly, has dis-pated all chances of forming a new administration, as a vote on the motion to close the debate, which was made and supported by his partisans, proved there was a majority of nearly 100 against him.

Spain.

Bayonne, Jan. 21. Forty-seven Carlist officers have notified the Spanish Consul in this city that they have given in their adhesion to King Alfonso.

London, Jan. 22. The *Times* announces that Russia, Austria and Germany have agreed to recognize Alfonso as King of Spain at once, without waiting for a proclamation by the Cortes.

Madrid, Jan. 26. The Carlists have left the provinces of Biscay and Guipazcoa and moved into Navarre, taking with them all their material of war. The Army of the North has assumed the offensive against the Carlists.

The Carlists and Alfonsists are said to have come to agreement by which peace will be restored.

Italy.

Rome, Jan. 23. The Italian Parliament will re-assemble Monday. Gen. Garibaldi, who is a member of the Chamber of Deputies, is expected to reach Civita Vecchia today from Caprera, on his way to this city. Preparations have been made at the former place to give him a receptiou.

China.

London, Jan. 26. The Times states that the Emperor of China died on the 12th inst. His successor is a Prince five years of age.

The Pall Mall Gazette says it is not certain who will succeed the Emperor.

Cuba.

New York, Jan. 26. A letter dated Havana, Jan. 20, says the small fox continues to rage very severely over the whole island.

Cubans are sanguine of the success of the insurgents who crossed Toocha, but it is doubtful if they succeed in getting into the sugar districts this side of Sagua. Matters are so uncertain, however, that it is possible that small bands may run through and burn the plantations.

Turkey.

Vienna, Jan. 26. The Governments of Turkey and Montenegro have dismissed the forces which they had collected on the border of their respective countries, in anticipation of hostilities.

Uruguay.

London, Jan. 21. The River Pate Bank has received the following despatch from Montevideo: The Uruguayian Government has fallen and the rebels are in power. There is general alarm and business is suspended. The British squadron is in the harbor. Pedro Varela, President of the Senate, has been elected by the rebels Provisional President of the Republic.

THE COAST DEFENSES. President Grant, last week, sent the following message to Congress:

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In my annual message of December 1, '74, while inviting general attention to all the recommendations made by the Secretary of War, your special attention was invited to the importance of preparation for war in the armament of our sea coast defenses. Proper armament is of vastly more importance than fortifications. The latter can be supplied very speedily for temporary purposes when needed; the former cannot. These views gain increased strength and pertinence as the years roll by.

I have now the honor to again call special attention to the condition of the armament of our fortifications, and the absolute necessity for immediate provision by Congress for the procurement of heavy cannon. The large expenditures required to supply the number of guns for our forts, is the strongest argument that can be adduced for a liberal appropriation for their gradual accumulation. In time of war such preparations cannot be made. Cannon cannot be purchased in open market and manufactured at short notice. They must be the product of years of experienced labor.

I herewith enclose copies of a report of the Chief of Ordnance and of a Board of Ordnance Officers on the the trial of an eight-inch rifle converted from a ten-inch smooth bore, which shows very conclusively an economical means of utilizing these useless smooth bores and making them into eight-inch rifles capable of piercing seven inches of iron. The 1294 ten-inch Rodman guns should, in my opinion, be so utilized, and the appropriation requested by the Chief of Ordnance of $250.000. to commence these conversions, is earnestly recommended.

While convinced of the economy and necessity of these conversions, the determination of the best and most economical method of providing guns of still larger calibre should no longer be delayed. The experience of other nations based on the new conditions of defence, brought prominently forward by the introduction of iron-clads into every navy afloat, demands heavier metal and rifle guns of not less than twelve inches of calibre. These enormous masses, hurling a shot of 700 pounds, can alone meet many of the requirements of the national defences. They must be provided, and experiments on a large scale can alone give the data necessary for the determination of the question. A suitable proving ground, with all the facilities and conveniences referred to by the Chief of Ordnance, with a liberal annual appropriation, is an undoubted necessity.

The guns now ready for trial cannot be experimented with without funds, and the estimate of $250.000 for the purpose is deemed reasonable and is strongly recommended. The constant appeals for legislation on the armamen' of fortifications ought no longer to be regarded, if Congress desires in peace to prepare the important material, without which future wars must inevitably lead to disaster.

This subject is submitted with the hope that the consideration it deserves may be given it at the present session.

(Signed) U. S. GRANT.

Executive Mansion, Jan. 20, 1875.

☞ Snow slides have recently been quite frequent in Big Cottonwood Canyon in Utah. One day last week a party of men engaged in shaking down ore in raw hides were caught by the slide. Six men named Thomas H. Broderck, William Ritter, Charles Dobble, James Breeze, Henry Atkins and Reuben Moore, were carried away and their bodies have not been recovered. George McConlin and Thomas White were swept away by the snow, but dug themselves out and their lives were saved. The slide extended about one mile and the path was about two hundred yards wide. The same day the bodies of six persons killed by the snow slides at Alton City, were recovered. It is supposed many others perished in the same way, but their bodies are covered in the snow to such a depth that they cannot be recovered for some time.

In one demolished house was found the body of Mrs. Carey, sitting in a rocking chair with her infant clasped in her arms, and near by the bodies of her husband and little girl. They had all perished from suffocation by snow. At another house a man was dug out alive, while a man who had been sleeping beside him was found dead. The dead body of another person was found in the vicinity of the house. There is much terror in the mining camps, and most of those who can get away will probable leave. But it is a difficult undertaking to get away, as the people will have to walk and run the gauntlet of snow slides on their way out of the canyons.

☞ A very informal transaction was the recovery, in New York last week, of the "St. Anthony," by Murillo, stolen from the Seville Cathedral. The picture, or what was left of it, was brought to a dealer who recognized it, and, conferring with the Spanish Consul, paid handsomely, without asking questions of the pair of Spaniards who delivered the treasure. Possessors of stolen property are usually expected to satisfy certain formalities, but as the "World" remarks, it may be "that no extradition treaty applies to canvas saints, and that works of art find no consideration in international comity."

☞ For impaired digestion, and in fact, debility from any cause, I know of nothing equal to Fellows' Hypophosphites. Its direct effect in strengthening the nervous system renders it suitable for the majority of diseases. I am, sir, yours truly.

WM. S. HOWE, M. D., Pittsfield, Me.

THE SUBSIDY INVESTIGATION. Richard B. Irwin on being recalled before the Committee last week, was asked if he would now give the names and amounts paid. In regard to the amounts, the witness said he might not be exactly accurate, but was nearly so. The following is the list: Charles Abert, $7,000; O. J. Averill, $10,000; J. G. Berritt, $10,000; E. H. Cormick, (does not recollect, but thinks) $2,500 or $5,000; Amos B. Corwin, $3,600; L. E. Chittenden, $5,000; B. H. Cheever, $5,000; Hamilton G. Font, $12,000; John W. Forney, $25,000; Samuel A. Hatch (about) $20,000; S. R. Ingraham, $10,000; William Moran, (don't recollect); Alexander W. Randall, $10,000; John H. Rice, $2,500; Wm. B. Shaw, $15,000; Chas. H. Sherrill, $500; John G. Schumaker, $300,000; A. H. Whitney, $100,000. The witness said the above list comprises the names of all persons employed by him, and he knew of the employment of only two others, namely: Wm. S. King, to whom he paid $125,000, and Richard S. Parsons, who was Stockwell's personal attorney. Witness paid Parsons $1500 on Stockwell's account. He gave Schumaker $275,000 in New York, and sent him $25,000 more in California. Hersey and Boyd, assistant doorkeepers of the House, were not employed by him. The amounts paid to them were gratuities, which witness had overlooked in his former statement. Witness at this point asked to be excused until to-morrow on account of suffering from ill health, which was granted.

After the committee had retired in private consultation for some time the doors were reopened and John G. Schumaker was recalled and questioned in regard to the checks and certificates of deposit bearing his endorsement, and apparently paid to him. Witness in reply swore he had no recollection of ever seeing those certificates of deposit or of drawing money on those checks. Schumaker also swore that he had no recollection of stating to Irwin that he required $25.000 additional or that he ever received that sum. Witness never kept business letters received by him and has no copies of letters sent by him.

Witness was questioned at great length respecting his endorsement of these checks and certificates, and about his connection with the Pacific Mail Company and subsidy movement, but said he could not recollect anything more than he had already stated when heretofore examined. Witness was then excused for the present.

The testimony of Irwin was interesting as showing to some extent the nature of the work done by persons engaged to put through the Pacific Mail subsidy, and as showing how these things are managed in Congress. Mr. Irwin looked after the Senate, while Mr. Schumaker took care of the House. Money was given by thousands to lobbyists, and yet they all declared it was not given to influence votes.

☞ The Eureka 10 yds. twist for Button Hole and the 50 and 100 yds. spools for hand or machine sewing, are the best.

The huge, drastic, griping, sickening pills, constructed of crude, coarse and bulky ingredients, are fast being superseded by Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets, or Sugar-Coated, Concentrated Root and Herb Juice, Anti-Bilious Granules—the "Little Giant" Cathartic or *Medium in Parvo* Physic. Modern Chemical Science enables Dr. Pierce to extract from the juices of the most valuable roots and herbs their active medicinal principles, which, when worked into little Pellets, or Granules, scarcely larger than mustard seed, renders such little Pellet or active and powerful as a large pill, while they are much more palatable and pleasant in effect.

Dr. Ira A. Thayer, of Bucyrus, Ohio, writes: "I regard your Pellets as the best remedy for the conditions for which you prescribe them, of anything I have ever used, so mild and certain in effect, and having the bowels in an excellent condition. Seems to me they must take the place of all other cathartic pills and medicines."

Lyon & Macomber, druggists, Vermillion, D. T., say: "We think they are going to sell like hot cakes as soon as people get acquainted with them, and will spoil the pill trade, as those that have used them like them much better than large pills."

Special Notices.

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Poetry.

A Legal Attachment.

BY AN UNDERGRADUATE OF THE LAW SCHOOL.

Believe me, Bess, when I declare
A title don't to my heart,
And you the party of the first,
And I the second part.

That I have an attachment true
Is useless quite to mention;
In vain I seek to serve you and
Arrest your sweet attention.

You know you owned some love for me
When I the question mooted,
But now it seems to me you act
As if you were non-suited.

My case is one in equity;
I've pleaded with precision;
You know the points; why will you then
So long reserve decision?

I make no dilatory plea;
I'm driven to distraction!
Unless I soon obtain relief,
I'm sure I shall take action.

At first a civil suit I'll bring
At Cupid's special session;
And there, a plaintiff lover, ask
For judgment by confession.

Now don't demur when thus you read,
But own you feel compunction,
For I my suit will prosecute
In spite of your injunction.

And if, my judgement in despite,
You will not hear me still,
I'll get an order from the court
T' administer your will.

I trust you'll file an answer brief
To this my declaration,
Or else I shall proceed to make
A cr.s.s-examination.

Our Story Teller.

THE BAMBER FORTUNE.

A New Year's Story.

On the last day of the old year Mrs. Bamber entered her shop, and served her customers abstractedly, for her mind was full of trouble. She was the most cheerful and aprightly of little women, with bright, keen blue eyes, a ruddy bloom in her soft wrinkled cheeks, and flaxen hair arranged in stiff curls about her forehead; but to-day the demand of a small boy, in shrill tones, for a bottle of Bamber's Drops failed to produce the delight usually manifested by her under such circumstances. Bamber's Drops was the remedy of her late husband for all the ills flesh is heir to, and Mrs. Bamber believed in it firmly with the ardor of a sanguine nature and loving heart. The late Dr. Bamber's star had set in sadness and gloom before an unsympathizing world had consented to take his panacea by the tea-spoonful. As the will of one fragile and timid but determined woman could make the world rescind its objections, Mrs. Bamber had prepared herself for the battle. When the small boy had taken himself off with his purchase, she leaned her elbow on the counter and sighed deeply.

"To think of the Platts coming to this! If Archibald was alive, instead of only his wife! He knew a deal about law, poor dear, and needed to, what with imitators and spurious articles to injure the trade. I would sell out, and give them every penny, if I could find a purchaser, and it wasn't all so sudden. Archibald was grateful to his dying breath, and I'm not likely to forget that we owe everything to Dr. Platt, dear, dear! Five thousand dollars, or a foreclosed mortgage. I tell you it's pure spite in that Hiram Driggs; he don't know how to behave himself yet as a rich man."

Mrs. Bamber's gaze strayed anxiously about the place, as if searching for a way out of her difficulties. Did the clew actually lie in her grasp, without her being aware of it! The shop was very tiny, but exquisitly neat, and the variety of articles for sale, which made it almost a museum, was arranged with a certain artistic perception of harmonious coloring. The late Dr. Bamber had been a chemist, and one side of the place was still devoted to those medicines which a woman may dispense without being a licensed apothecary; but the rest of his stock had been removed across the way to the new drug store, which was a grief to Mrs. Bamber's soul, and replaced on her shelves with a few books, stationery, and gay worsteds.

"Why should I not be the apothecary after Archibald?" she had said to Dr. Platt, with an energetic nod of the head. "Don't I know as much as Peyton?"

Peyton was the rival over the way. Dr. Platt, a rosy, good-natured gentleman, had made some soothing response, calculated to mollify feminine vanity, and suggested the stationery department as a fresh field of usefulness.

Mrs. Bamber's eyes rested on the volumes opposite, a package of valentines in which the town indulged at the proper season, a jumping-jack dangling helplessly from a nail. Never by any chance did her gaze wander to the shop window. She went over to the other side and opened a show-case, which contained fat pincushions and impossible pen-wipers, articles made by old ladies of the reduced gentlewoman type, and presented here for sale.

"I believe that I would sell my own soul to raise the money and help them out of trouble," said Mrs. Bamber, vehemently; and then she took up a pincushion, as if in hopes it might turn to gold in her hand. "Pooh! these things have lain here for years. What good are they?"

An aquarium occupied a place in the center of the shop—a crystal house where silky fibres of sea-weed grew among minute green toes, and fish of metallic hues flashed through the waters. A guilty pang smote the little woman at the sight of it. In all these years of hard work and lonely widowhood the aquarium was the only extravagance she had allowed herself, and often would she spend her time of rest gazing into the miniature water-world. If she could give the money it had cost to the Platt family!

A white gleam came softly through the window from the snow-covered street; winter seemed to muffle the town of Stoneport in a mantle of silence, setting each household in a sparate atmosphere of individuality. Up on the hill, where genteel Stoneport dwelt in large, old fashioned mansions, the music of sleigh-bells and merry voices were to be heard, but down here on the main street the afternoon fell in quiet cold, deserted by traffic, as soon as the sun quitted the narrow thoroughfare.

Miss Simmins, the milliner, peered from her window, and Mr. Peyton, the druggist opposite, polished his door-panes mechanically with a bit of chamois leather. The harbor, how dark and wind-fretted, lapsed up to Mrs. Bamber's very back-door. Pirates might have landed and carried her off at midnight, if they had been disposed, although Mrs. Bamber was not daunted by fear of such violent abduction. In the old days piratical crews in rakish craft from the Spanish Main had not been unknown in the waters of this very harbor, and Stoneport had been more intimately associated with the slave trade than was good for its reputation at a future date. Like so many towns on the coast of New England, prosperity had ebbed away, the bud of promise then blighted by some mysterious fluctuation of commerce. There were those who detected a righteous Nemesis in the decay of Stoneport, and here it was left to crumble away in the sunshine, a moss grown memory of the past. The shop bell rang suddenly, and a girl entered.

"Oh, Mrs. Bamber!" she cried; and throwing her arms impulsively about the little woman, burst into tears.

The girl was taller and larger than her companion, and yet clung to her.

"Has anything more happened?" inquired Mrs. Bamber, alarmed. "Now don't give way, my dear."

"I can't help it," sobbed the girl, excitedly. Mr. Driggs has been to see me again. He came to the school-room, with all the children staring, and told me that he would not foreclose on the Platt property if I would marry him. Oh, what a cruel, cruel bargain!"

"You never promised—" began Mrs. Bamber, breathlessly.

The girl drew herself up.

"I said no."

Charlotte Eaton was very attractive, certainly, even in anger, with flushed cheeks and tearful eyes. A little scarlet hood covered her golden hair, and gave her something of childish beauty. At this moment there was a stir in the deserted street; people appeared like magic. A sleigh, curved like a shell, and lined with robes of fleecy white fur, drawn by spirited black horses in flashing harness, and driven by a solemn negro coachman in livery, slowly passed.

The sole occupant was a small man wrapped in sable, with a keen narrow face who gazed down on the commotion his splendor excited with irrepressible exultation. This man was Hiram Driggs, and to show himself ostentatiously to his world of Stoneport was a pleasure which had not yet palled on the rich man.

"His mother learned her trade when I did," said Miss Simmins, the milliner. "I am sure nobody thought her son would come to owning every thing."

The elder Driggs had, indeed, worked in secret many years, directing little rills of wealth, gleaned from any humble source, to his own dingy warehouse. Miserly and reticent in the extreme, Stoneport had not divined his riches until the son, now forty-five years old, suddenly emerged from the bondage in which he had been held by his stern parent while living, to assume the role of millionaire. Hence the astonishment of the town; hence Hiram's love of display.

In Mrs. Bamber's shop the two women grew rigid with indignation, as the sleighs passed the window, and the young schoolmistress with a curious admixture of envy and repulsion. Had she not been urged, nay, almost threatened in all that she held dearest—her plighted troth with Charlie Platt—to share the sleigh with its fleecy robes? Might she not save the Platt homestead, by paying this very price of marrying Hiram Drigg? Mrs. Bamber took her hands.

"Charlotte, let us go to this man, and beg him to release them," she said earnestly. "You must have influence with him."

"I am afraid to go," said Charlotte.

"Afraid! When you are to be Charley's wife? We must fight for him, my dear."

These two champions saw the sins of Mr. Driggs in the light of intense partisanship. He was a mean man, and the power of money would naturally make him tyrannical; moreover, he had selected Charlotte Eaton to fall in love with as the sweetest and most blooming young lady in Stoneport. Hiram Driggs could certainly afford to please himself at last. Unversed in the delicate phases of romance, he could by no means win a smile from Charlotte, and discovered in wrath and consternation that Charley Platt was his rival. He would foreclose and take possession of the house. Stoneport saw in this measure only the grasping tendencies of the man who wished to establish a home, while the victims detected revenge. Probably both factions were wrong.

Mrs. Bamber, with trembling Charlotte by her side, presented herself before the tyrant. He still dwelt in the wing of the warehouse where his father had been contented to abide. Perhaps he was chagrined to be found in the small parlor, which he had furnished with yellow satin curtains and sofas, when he would so soon take possession of the house on the hill. The mission was a scarcely a successful one, although Mrs. Bamber made herself spokeswoman on the occasion with all possible energy. She even offered up her shop, since Dr. Platt had given it originally, and was laughed at for her pains. Mr. Hiram Driggs was not a pleasant man to ask for favors, especially when he came quite close to Charlotte, and said, harshly, "You know my terms."

After that Mrs. Bamber drew her companion away without another word.

"He is a brute," said the little woman, tingling with mortification at the remembrance of the coarse laugh which had greeted her proposal of yielding up her all.

They met a young man at the corner of the street.

"Take care of her," said Mrs. Bamber, transferring Charlotte to his charge.

"My dear Mrs. Bamber, I do not need the injunction," said Charley Platt, in a voice he strove to render steady and cheerful, as he drew the girl's hand through his arm with an air of tender protection. Charlotte and Mrs. Bamber looked at each other meaningly; then the latter turned away with a little pang at her heart. These two were made for each other, handsome Charley and pale, frightened Charlotte; but how would it be with them if evil in the shape of Hiram Driggs stepped between? When she reached her own door Mrs. Bamber was not only disturbed and distressed, as she had been all day, but thoroughly out of temper. She would have liked to set the world to rights, and had only succeeded in ruffling her own *amour propre* in the interview with a brusque, rude millionaire. Perhaps it was this mood that made her shake her head at three pictures in her window.

"Oh, there you are! I only wish I could recover the sum your frames cost me. Old masters, forsooth!"

The pictures were small and dark, as if some shadow obscured their original meaning, even as brambles and moss might have overgrown the artist's grave. The sun shot a golden arrow in the window as Mrs. Bamber paused, and illuminated the dim canvas. Perhaps the radiance of revelation reached her soul in that glimpse, however faintly, the gleam of an angel's wing cleaving the sky, the wonder of the Virgin's upturned face; but the sunset faded, and Mrs. Bamber was left to sorrowful contemplation of the garish frames. "Some papist trash," she soliloquized." "Whatever possessed me to get 'em new frames! I shall never see the money back, I'll be bound! I'm sure I would be thankful to get twenty-five dollars a piece allowing twenty for the frames; and I suppose the pictures are worth five, if they amount to anything. Nobody will give that though."

A year before the shop bell had brought Mrs. Bamber from her supper to the contemplation of a thin, cadaverous stranger of the brigand type, wrapped in a cloak, and with a broad hat drawn over his brows. The man was faint with cold, and coughed dolefully; he had no money, and no friends. Mrs. Bamber was not the person to send away such a waif empty-handed. She placed him before the fire in her own tiny kitchen, and made Nanny, her small handmaiden, serve him with hot tea; she wrote a note to the clergyman, who dispensed charity, to find a lodging; and she finally dispatched him with a bottle of Bamber's Drops as a gift. The stranger lingered in the garret furnished him, reserved, a trifle sinister, and only known to smile when Mrs. Bamber preached to him in a language which he but imperfectly understood.

There came a day in rude March, when so many leaves drop from the tree of life, that the foreigner sent for Mrs. Bamber, bequeathing to her solemnly three small pictures set in carved wood.

"They are worth their weight in gold," he had whispered, and turned his inscrutable face—in which there lingered a triumph to the end—to the wall.

Mrs. Bamber had shed a few tears, and carried her gifts home cautiously, as if she held some explosive projectile. The clergyman surveyed the pictures through his spectacles, and chilled the possessor's enthusiasm somehat by expressing a preference for engravings. He recommended replacing the quaint olive-wood frames with new ones, and exposing them for sale in the window. Clergymen are not always the best financial advisers. Mrs. Bamber's eyes grew very long when she saw the framer's bill. Stoneport was skeptical of these daubs; besides, the widow asked a fabulous price for them. Stoneport knew a chromo and a modern landscape full of lively coloring, but such dismal things were not to its taste.

The last night of the year closed in sadly. Mrs. Bamber sat long beside the Morningglory stove in the parlor back of the shop, sipping her tea, in which beverage alone lay consolation. A portrait of Dr. Bamber, representing him as a somewhat wall-eyed gentleman, hung above her, and opposite a cabinet displayed among other relics several skulls prepared by the lamented Archibald. Her thoughts went back to a dreary day on an emigrant wharf when she landed with her husband, who had been injured by a fall on the voyage. The sense of desolate homesickness again swept over her now, twelve years later, and a gentleman with a good humored rosy face spoke to her kindly. Could she ever forget that this Samaritan was Dr. Platt, of Stoneport, now gone to his reward? He had asked a few questions, but had brought the friendless chemist to his own town, and established him in business. No one knew the cost of it all. It was not the good physician's way to make his charity a burden. Mrs. Bamber wiped her eyes as she sipped her tea, by the stove, and the night closed in.

Up on the hill the old Platt homestead was shrouded in gloom, and revealed only one dim light in the dining-room. It was a brick house, with white pillars supporting a projecting roof, shaded in summer by large trees, and seemed in the clear crisp evening surrounded by tender memories. Now it was all to be swept away, for the doctor's purse had been ever open, and he had left wife and son in straitened circumstances. The lovers stood in the window, hand clasped in hand, as if claiming a silent mutual support, while Mrs. Platt, a stout lady with a querulous mouth, wandered from room to room gazing at her precious household gods.

"Even little Mrs. Bamber owns the roof over her head, and all owing to the doctor," sobbed the poor lady, taking up a favorite tea-cup with loving touch.

The young son set his teeth and drew a long breath. Charlotte could only lean her brow against the cool pane. If they knew all! The night brought sorrow, but the ensuing day was only anticipated with dread.

Hiram Driggs made himself comfortable on the yellow satin couch of his little parlor, with a decanter of wine at his elbow and a cigar. If conscience is a matter of education, he should have been wholly at ease, but there had been an expression in Charlotte Eaton's eyes as she departed that day which pricked him smartly even in remembrance. This look he might never forget. The wonderful backward glance of the Cenci haunts a world. Lounging on the yellow sofa, he reasoned himself out of these fancies. He would gain at a cheap rate a fine home. Dr. Platt was a reckless spendthrift in his day, and his creditors need not be blamed for that. As for Charlotte, he might make terms with that proud young lady yet. Altogether the evening passed not unpleasantly for him in planning improvements on his new property.

New-Year's Day dawned on Stoneport bringing joy to many hearts and striking like a knell on other lives that found their burden greater than could be borne. All nature smiled beneath a cloudless sky; the snow was rose-flushed on the slope, and the shrubbery glistened as if powdered with diamond dust; the harbor, where two schooners rode at anchor, was a deep blue. Stoneport did not keep the holiday especially, although it still adhered to the Puritan belief that New-Year's Day should be sanctioned rather than Catholic Christmas. On the hill the young ladies appeared in pretty dresses of blue and pink, and there were cake and wine on the sideboard should the young men call. The shops were open. At ten o'clock a man passed along the main street, paused before Mrs. Bambers showwindow, shaded his eyes a moment, and walked on. Mrs. Bamber observed him with the habitual curiosity of the resident of a small place. He was an insignificant person in a gray coat, with red whiskers and a round face. That was all. Pale and anxious after a sleepless night, she stood with her eyes fixed apprehensively on the clock. It could not be long before Hiram Driggs would do his worst. The shop bell rang sharply.

"What do you ask for your pictures, ma'am?"

"Five thousand dollars," muttered Mrs. Bamber, abstractedly, still staring at the clock.

What was that? The insignificant stranger in the gray coat had reached for the pictures, and was unceremoniously striking off the splendid gilt frames with his stout cane.

"Mercy! Stop! what are you doing?" Mrs. Bamber ran nimbly to his side and arrested his hand.

"I don't want these frames," said the stranger, contemptuously. "You set your own price, and I will give you five thousand dollars."

Mrs. Bamber sank down on a stool in speechless astonishment. How unreal everything had become—the snowy street, the shop, the man in a gray coat! Surely Nancy would soon tap on her bedroom door and call her it was time for her to get up. Then, by a sudden and not unnatural transition of awakening, she became suspicious and vigilant. Her visitor wasted no superfluous words; his broad ruddy face betrayed not a trace of emotion as he produced a crisp bit of paper, dipped a pen into Mrs. Bamber's ink, and began to write.

"If you are not cheating me, let me see the money," interposed Mrs. Bamber, sharply.

He wiped the pen, restored it to a silver sheath in his pocket, and took up the draft.

"Very good," was his sole comment, and he went out.

Mrs. Bamber laughed hysterically. Would he ever return? Perhaps he was a maniac. It seemed an hour before he returned, and counted out a pile of broad shining gold pieces that made a pleasant clinking music as they fell in a glittering heap. Five thousand dollars!

Still phlegmatic, and apparently unmoved, the purchaser folded the pictures beneath his ample cloak, and returned to the Stoneport Hotel, where he was the solitary guest. Once in his chamber his reserve melted; he beamed in broad smiles, and rubbed his hands with a subdued chuckle of triumph.

"Dirt cheap!" he said to himself, and fell to studying the dim canvas with the aspect of a connoisseur. He then wrote the following letter:

"*To the Right Honorable the Earl of H——:*

"My Lord: I have the satisfaction of informing you that I have found the three pictures, after two years' search in the states. They were in the possession of an ignorant woman, keeping shop in an obscure town of the New England coast, who sold them to me for £1,000. The pictures are undoubtedly the missing originals of Rallaelle Sanzio, and will complete your lordship's collection. I tracked the Italian, Luigi Carnole, to the haunts of his race in the city of New York, and was obliged to proceed with greater caution from the fact that he appears to have been actuated by revenge in the theft of the pictures. Your lordship will be better able to determine than I am whether this revenge was a loyal attachment to the paince of his master, the duke, and consequent rage at the dispersion of its works of art to foreign lands, or a more strictly personal motive. He made no effort here to sell the pictures as originals to dealers or private individuals, and after a quarrel with some of his countrymen he disappeared, in company with another Italian. Pursuit led me across the plains to the Pacific, where I found the second Italian, a wandering musician, only to learn that he had parted with Luigi Carnole six months before, in the city of New Haven. In the latter place he had lived in poverty and bad health, and I was able to follow his steps to my present locality, where he died. I return to England by the next mail. I have the honor to subscribe myself,

"Your lordship's most humble and obedient servant, ALGERNON SMITH."

Mrs. Platt sat in her bedroom parlor, eyes swollen with weeping, and the curtains drawn to exclude the curious glances of Stoneport. She held fast he hands of her son and Charlotte Eaton, and trembled at the stroke of the clock. The young people gazed sadly at each other across the black figure of the mother, who was attired as if for a funeral. Would Hiram Driggs relent and give more time? Was it not probable that he would appear and claim all? The young man could only chafe at his own helplessness in the emergency and inability to protect his own.

The sound of flying feet made them all listen. Mrs. Bamber, breathless and without a bonnet, rushed into the parlor and cast a leather purse down in Mrs. Platt's lap.

"Oh you needn't count it! I've done so a dozen times already. Here's five thousand dollars and the house is saved."

Between laughter and tears she explained her unexpected wealth, and restored it to the wife of her benefactor of years ago. Then a shadow crossed her face, just dimming its brightness for a moment. Much could have been done to advance the interests of Bamber's Drops, and place the remedy properly before an enlightened public with the aid of this money. She plucked Charley's sleeve in the midst of the thanks which overpowered all coherent speech, and said, tremulously. "You will not forget the Drops when you receive your diploma, will you, Charley?"

"Neither the Drops nor my debt," returned Charley, in an unsteady voice.

Then Mrs. Bamber, through a mist of tears, saw Charlotte Eaton rise, tall and proud, and take the purse from Mrs. Platt, for Hiram Driggs stood on the threshold.

Thus a humble little woman placed her gift on the altar of the New Year.—*Harper's Weekly.*

California Gold.

An Interesting Account of the Discovery of the first Nugget.

Mrs. Wimmer, who, with her husband, is now in San Francisco, with the expectation of getting some relief from the Socity of Pioneers, gives this account of the gold piece which was first discovered at Coloma. We quote from the *Bulletin's* report:

"We arrived here," said Mrs. Wimmer, "November, 1846, with a party of fourteen families, across the plains from Missouri. On arriving at Sutter's Fort, Sacramento, we found Fremont in want of more men. My husband enlisted before we had got the oxen unyoked, and left me and my seven children at the fort in care of Commissary Currin. We drew our rations like common soldiers for four months. Capt. Sutter arranged a room for us in the fort. As soon as Wimmer returned from Santa Clara, where he had been stationed during the winter, he joined three others and went over the mountains to what is now called Donner Lake to fetch over the effects of the Donner family, after that terrible winter of suffering you all have heard about. In June, 1847, they loaded all our household goods for Battle Creek, upon the Sacramento, to put up a saw mill, but they changed their plans and went to Coloma. Capt. Sutter and J. W. Marshall were equal partners, and were the head of the expedition. After seven days of travel, blazing trees, we arrived at sundown about a mile above the town. Next morning Wimmer went out to select a site for the mill, and I a site for the house. He was to oversee the Indians, be a handy man about, and I was to be cook. We had from fifteen to twenty men employed.

"But you had some help from the Indians, didn't you?" I asked.

"Oh! no, except to scratch out the pots and sweep out the dirt floors. We soon had a log—a good log house—and a log heap to cook by. They had been working on the millrace, dam, and mill about six months, when, one morning along the last days of December or the first week of January, 1847-48, after an absence of several days to the fort, (that was our San Francisco in those days.) Marshall took Wimmer and went down to see what had been done while he was away. The water was entirely shut off; and as they walked along, talking and examining the work, just ahead of them, on a little rough, muddy rock lay something looking bright, like gold. They both saw it, but Marshall was the first to stoop and pick it up, and, as he looked at it, doubted its being gold. Our little son Martin was along with them, and Marshall gave it to him to bring up to me. He came in a hurry and said: 'Here, mother, here's something Marshall and pa found, and they want you to put it into saleratus water to see if it will tarnish.' I said 'This is gold, and I will throw it into my lye-kettle, which I had just tried with a feather, and if it is gold, it will be gold when it comes out. I finished off my soap that day and set it off to cool, and it stayed there till next morning. At the breakfast table one of the work hands raised up his head from eating, and said, 'I heard something about gold being discovered; what about it?' Marshall told him to ask Jenny, and I told him it was in my soap-kettle. Marshall said it was there if it had not gone back to California. A plank was brought to lay my soap on to, and I cut it in chunks, but it was not to be found. At the bottom of the pot was a double-handful of potash, which I lifted in my two hands, and there was my gold as bright as it could be. Marshall still contended that it was not gold, but whether he was afraid his men would leave him or he really thought so, I don't know. Wimmer remarked that it looked like gold, weighed heavy, and would do to make money out of. The men promised not to leave till the mill was finished. Not being sure it was gold, Wimmer urged Marshall to go to the fort and have it tested. He did so, and Geo. McKinstry, an assayer, pronounced it gold. Capt. Sutter came up with Marshall and called all the Indians together and agreed with them to certain boundaries that they claimed, and on the right of discovery demanded thirty per cent. of the gold taken out. They, in payment, were to give the Indians a certain number of handkerchiefs, pocket looking-glasses, shirts, beads, and other trinkets."

"Mrs. Wimmer, will you be kind enough to tell me how you came in possession of this piece of gold?"

"Yes; it was this: One day Marshall was packing up to go away. He had gathered together a good deal of dust on this thirty per cent. arrangement, and had it buried under the floor. In overhauling his traps, he said to me in the presence of Elisha Packwood, 'Jenny, I will give you this piece of gold. I always intended to have a ring made from it for my mother, but I will give it to you.' I took it and have had it in my possession from that day to this.

"You have not the exact date of the discovery of the gold?" I asked.

"No, but it was sometime about the holidays, for I know that Capt. Sutter had sent up to me a dozen bottles of brandy—six for the men and six for me. At first I could not find them—at last we found them in a barrel of dried peas. Of course the men had a big Christmas, and after they had drank up their six bottles they wanted mine, and they got them."

The piece of gold I must describe. Its value is between $4 and $5. It looks like (pardon the comparison) a piece of spruce gum laid out of the mouth of a school-girl, except the color. It is rather flat, full of indentations, just as the teeth make in a piece of nice gum. There was one or two rough points on the edge, which, with a little stretch of the imagination, gives the appearance of a man's head with a helmet on; then, turn it another way, and, as Mrs. Wimmer said, "it looks like some kind of a varmint or other." It can be easily identified by any one who has ever seen it before. Several persons who have not seen it for years readily recognized it; among them are Col. Gift, Samuel Brannan, Dr. Gwin, and many other well-known citizens.

Garden Patches.

One of Boston's best known merchants noted for his shrewdness and penetration, had a test case presented a short time since and came off victorious. As it is an illustartion of this millionaire's penetration in great business affairs, we give the story here.

It appears that the merchant wanted another gardener upon his country estate, near Boston, and an individual presented himself for that office.

"Understand the business?"

"Yes, been in it for years."

"Whom had he lived with last? The applicant mentioned a gentlemen the merchant was well aquainted with, stated that he left for no fault, but that his former employer was going to Europe, had sold his estate, and had no further use for him.

"What wages do you expect?"

"Eighteen dollars a month."

This was astonishingly low for such a promising looking, sober man, and the shrewd business man rubbed his chin thoughtfully and reflected that it was a bargain; but was there something wrong about it?. His habitual business caution even in this comparatively trifling negotiation did not forsake him.

"Call to-morrow at this time, and I will have seen Mr.——, your former employer and give you an answer."

The gardener turned and began to walk slowly away; as he did so, he displayed two patches on the seat of his pantaloons beneath the line of his roundabout jacket.

"Hallo? here! come back here," called the merchant. "you needn't apply to-morrow; I see I shan't want you."

The astonished applicant stammered out something about his knowledge of gardening and good character, but was cut short by this practical observation.

"Dont want you, sir, the patches on your breeches are on the wrong side. a gardener's breeches ought to be patched at the knees, not on the seat. You won't do for me."

Storks.

A pair of storks built a nest on one of the chimneys of a mansion near Berlin. Having a curiosity to inspect it, the owner climbed up, and found in it one egg, which, being about the size of a goose's egg, was replaced by one belonging to that bird. The storks seemed not to notice the exchange, but no sooner was the egg hatched than the male bird, perceiving the difference, rose from the nest, and flying round it several times with loud screams, disappeared, and was not seen again for three days, during which time the female continued to tend her offspring as usual. Early on the fourth morning, however, the inmates of the house were disturbed by loud and discordant cries in the field fronting the house, when they perceived about five hundred storks assembled in a dense body, and one standing about twenty yards before the rest, apparently harranguing its companions, who stood listening, to all appearance with great attention. When this bird had concluded, it retired, and another took its place, and seemed to address them in a similar manner. This proceeding and noise was repeated by several successive birds until about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, when the whole flock simultaneously arose in the air uttering dismal cries. The female, all this time was observed to remain on her nest, watching their motions with apparent trepidation. In a short time the body of storks made towards her, headed by one bird, supposed to be the male, who struck her vehemently three or four times, and knocked her out of the nest; the whole mass then followed the attack, until they had not only destroyed the female stork (who made no attempt either to escape or defend herself), but the young gosling, and utterly removing every vestige of the nest itself. Since that time no stork has been known to build there.

This anecdote appears to demonstrate a power of combination and a kind of moral government among storks which will startle readers who have hitherto believed that the lower animals are destitute of mental capacity.—*Morris' Animal Sagacity.*

One Hundred Florins for a Hair.

A young and poorly-clad girl entered a barber's shop in Vienna, and told the proprietor that he must "buy her head." The friseur examined her long, glossy, chestnut locks, and began to bargain. He could give eight guiden and no more. Hair was plentiful this year, the price had fallen, there was less demand, and other phrases of the kind. The little maiden's eyes filled with tears, and she hesitated a moment while threading her fingers through her chestnut locks. She finally threw herself into a chair. "In God's name, she gasped, "take it quickly." The barber, satisfied with his bargain, was about to clinch it with his shears, when a gentleman who sat half-shaved, looking on, told him to stop.—"My child," he said, "why do you want to sell your beautiful hair?" "My mother has been nearly five months ill; I can't work enough to support us; everything has been sold or pawned, and there is not a penny in the house" (*und kein kreutzer im hause*)." "No, no, my child," said the stranger, "if that is the case I will buy your hair, and will give you a hundred guiden for it." He gave the poor girl the note, the sight of which had dried her tears, and took up the barber's shears. Taking the locks in his hand, he took the longest hair, cut it off alone, and put it carefully in his pocket-book, thus paying one hundred florins for a single hair. He took the poor girl's address, in case he should want to buy another at the same rate. This charitable man is only designated as the chief of a great industrial enterprise within the city.—*Preston Lloyd.*

☞ He was a quaint old fisherman. One day, along toward dusk, he was fishing in a trout stream, and, as he swung his fly over the water, it was suddenly snapped by a large bat. The strange looking thing dangled and flapped its wings at the end of the line. The fisherman's companion called out: "Say, Sam, got anything?" "Ye-as," looking at the bat on his hook. "What is it?" I dunno, unless it's a cherubim!"

☞ There is in the island of Skye, off the coast of Scotland, a minister of a parish church whose father, grandfather and great-grandfather filled the same pulpit before him, and who is fitting his son to be his successor. He is at the same time Chairman of the School and Parochial Boards, road contractor for the district, a noted breeder of setters and an extensive sheep farmer.—His favorite hymn must be the one which says: "For Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do."

Young Folks' Column.

Hunting Eggs.

"Who wants to hunt eggs?" shouted Charlie the bold;
"Who wants to go climb on the hay?"
"O, I!" clamored Fannie and Will;
"And me, too!" pleaded three-year old May.

So they rushed to the barn, helter-skelter, and soon
Were driving about with a zest,
In the corners and rafters, the mangers and hay,
To see who could find the first nest.

"And who gets the most eggs shall beg grandma to bake
A cake we can share all around;"
So Fannie suggested; and the boys cried "Hurrah!
We'll have every egg can be found!"

Nimble Charley went clambering about like a cat,
And soon counted "one, two, three, four!"
And then, with the pearly-white eggs in his hat,
Slid carefully down to the floor.

"There's a nest!" Fannie cried, from far up on the mow,
"Right here in the hay! One, two, three!"
And in her white apron she gathered them up,
As happy and glad as could be.

"Old Speckle's on mine!" shouted Will; but just then,
With a cackle, away flew the hen;
"Dear me!" said poor Will, "I was sure I would beat,
And here I have only got two!"

"Where's May?" they all questioned; "O, where has she gone?"
"Here! here I is? I's foun' a nes'!"
And her curly brown head from the manger popped up,
Just under the nose of Black Bess.

"O! sit still, May, or the horsie may bite!"
And they rushed to her rescue, with laugh and with shout;
"She's got the most—sure as you live!"

But there she was, sitting in sweetest content;
And down in her snug little lap
Five soft little eggs lay rolled into balls,
Contentedly taking a nap.

Naming the Baby.

Smudge had ransacked various books for a name, and as the sixth of the latest edition of Smudge was indicative of toil in the ranks of men, as that infant looked strong, almost warlike—a great name was the quest of its distracted parents. Mrs. S. wanted it named after some Bible character. Smudge suggested Samson Goliah, which would typify strength; Mrs. S. leaned to Moses Samuel, emblematical of meekness.

Smudge had declared that he would expose the child to the measles before it should be nicknamed Mose or Sam. Then he hinted at Jonah; but Mrs. S. would listen to no such monogram. She didn't want her last child's name connected with the fish story! Already they had named a child Haman, and she was sure that he would be hanged some day. Seeing that no scriptural name could be agreed upon, she suggested Omega, reminding Smudge that they had named their first child Alpha.

"You don't call this one Omega," said Smudge. "I'll put the name away, and when we want it I'll let you know. How would Martin Luther do?"

"I'm a Baptist, I am, Smudge!" retorted Mrs. S. coloring. "I dont want any Lutheran names in this house. For your mother's sake I allowed one of my children to be called Jonathan Wesley. She don't poke Methodist names on me again. If Luther had been a Baptist the name might do. There's Roger Williams. Roger Williams Smudge, would sound well. He could write it R. Williams Smudge, you see."

"I'll never will," cried the parent with determination. "Roger Williams was a Baptist, and you know, Mrs. Smudge, that I don't lean that way. I'd sooner call him Tom Paine."

"Call him Tom Paine, and I'll kill him before he's weaned."

"You like Puritans, Mrs. Smudge. Call him Miles Standish."

"No, sir! I don't want my child to grow up with any such outlandish name. You called our second boy Plymouth Rock Smudge, and that name will be used before he votes. No more Puritan names."

"You're the confoundest particular woman I ever saw," retorted Smudge. "If it had been a girl we would have called her Cleopatra Octavia."

"No, we wouldn't. Our fourth girl now groans under the name of Olympia Tarpeia. It will make her an old maid. Let's compromise, Smudge. You like a strong name—Goliah, for instance—I, a Baptist name. Let's call the baby Roger W. Goliah Smudge."

"Put the Bible name first."

"I won't do it!"

"Then we'll call him something else."

"My father's name was Joshua Gideon," meekly suggested Mrs. S.

"What do I care if it was? None of my children shall be called after any of your relatives. That's settled! Let's fall back on a late name—Garibaldi, for instance."

"Or Bonaparte."

"Which one?"

"Napoleon the Third."

"No; I won't have him called Napoleon."

"Then you shan't call him Garibaldi." retorted Mrs. S. firmly. "Smudge," you're the thickest headed individual I ever lived with. You won't listen to any thing I propose."

"Then call the boy Daniel Webster. I always admired the old statesman."

"Our family shan't be disgraced by a whig name," said Mrs. Smudge. "Lafayette is a great, a good name."

Smudge thought; he was on the eve of suggesting the name of the great Frenchman himself.

"He must have a middle name."

"Lafayette Williams," says Mrs. S.

"There's your old Baptist name again! I tell you Roger Williams shan't in any form hang to that boy's coat tail."

"Then you shan't call him Lafayette."

And thus the quarreling over the christening continued for six mortal hours.—Finally the affair was settled. Smudge's twelfth baby is to face the world with the simpel cognomen of John Smudge.

The Dog "Crusoe" and the Crows.

Crows do not commonly attack four-footed living game, (larger than frogs), though we have seen a flock of them chase even a horse—and not a very lean one, either. A lady thus chronicles some of the adventures of her dog Crusoe:

When "Crusoe" was quite a puppy, he ran barking after a fine horse in the garden. The horse lifted his heels, struck poor Crusoe on the ear, and the gentleman who had followed him (and in vain endeavored to call him off the pursuit) took him up for dead. I shall never forget seeing the poor creature brought in with the whites of his eyes turned up as if dead. But he recovered; and it so cured him of running after horses, that he never did it again; and if ever he saw this particular horse, he would be in such a state of distress he was half wild, and never go near him, or look at him if he could help it, even at a great distance off.

But Crusoe's propensity for roaming was not so easily cured, as I shall show you.—He was very good a long time; ran about the garden and house, but never went off the premises. One day at dinner we missed him; and his truant ways this time nearly cost him his life. He had not been gone long when one of the servants saw him tearing down a field of stubble. Crusoe was racing with three or four large crows after him; and as they had wings, and he had only legs, though they were swift ones, the match was rather an unequal one; and, faint with exertion and fright, the poor little fellow was completely gained upon by his enemies. Just as my servant got up to him, he had sunk down exhansted, and the birds were setting on him and tearing off his beautiful hair to get to his eyes. They evidently mistook him for a young lamb, and if our lad had not come up when he did, they would have blinded our pet forever. And perhaps would have killed him. So intent were they on their victim, that the lad's shouts did not frighten them away, and it was only when he was in arm's length that the birds rose heavily and took to flight.

Poor Crusoe! He is generally so brave; but this time he was nearly frightened to death. His pretty eyes, instead of being shaded by his beautiful long hair; were laid open without anything to cover them, and it was months before the hair grew again. He was so disfigured you would hardly have known him, and I thing he hardly knew himself.

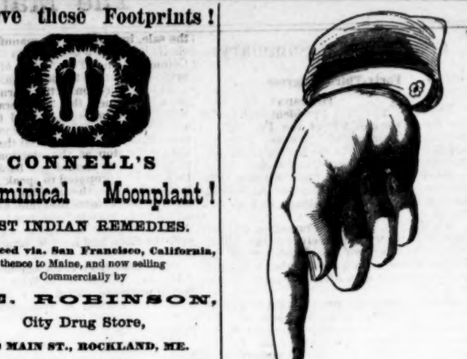
"Dood Night, Folks."

There was a little girl in the cars, whose sweet, smiling ways won all our hearts.—Everybody had a kind word to say to her, and she had a kind word for everybody in return. We quite forget the heat, the dust, the noise, and the cinders of the way, in following her both with our eyes and heart, wishing for all the world we had a bit of a darling just like her.

When evening came she fell asleep. On reaching the station where her parents stopped, her father caught her suddenly, and as we thought roughly. Opening her wondering eyes, and finding herself leaving us, "Dood night, folks," she said, "Dood night, folks," and the car door slammed behind her; she vanished out of sight. Not so the loving picture she left behind. I venture to say that every one of her travelling companions, some of them rude men, was the better and happier for her sweet courtesy and winning ways.

☞ A big brother in Pottsville has been brought to shame. His sister had a bean who was obnoxious to him. One dark night on the steps, she seemed to be affectionately kissing this beau good night. The brother crept up softly and kicked hard, and down fell an elaborate scarecrow.

Observe these Footprints!



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